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TALES FOR YOUTH.

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TALES FOR YOUTH,

OR THE

HIGH ROAD TO RENOWN,

THROUGH THE

PATHS OF PLEASURE;

Being a Collection of Tales illuſtrative of an Alphabetical Arrangement of Subjects,

THE OBSERVANCE OF WHICH WILL ENABLE

YOUNG MEN

TO ARRIVE WITH RESPECTABILITY AT THE

PINNACLE OF FAME.

"We are ſet here to pleaſe all cuſtomers;
Their Humours and their Fancies offend none;
We get by many, if we loſe by one."

——"'Mongſt trades 'tis found,
Deny a penny, it may croſs a pound;
O, he that means to thrive, with patient eye,
Muſt pleaſe the devil, if he come to buy"

THE PATIENT MAN.

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INTRODUCTION.

THE Author of this work, though very ſenſible his idea is not original, flatters himſelf his plan merits that title; he has endeavoured to blend inſtruction with entertainment, ſo as not to loſe ſight of the one, by too great an indulgence in the other. Having been an apprentice himſelf, he muſt be allowed to know the effects of thoſe qualities he mentions, as he always found them upon trial, to prove what he aſſerts, and he now earneſtly recommends to Apprentices in general, to practiſe them as the ſureſt means to entitle them to the diſtinction

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THE

YOUTH'S COMPANION & GUIDE,

ACCURACY.

THE importance of this quality may not ſeem to you ſo great as it really is; you may turn it off to the book-keeper, whoſe principal care it ought to be, but nevertheleſs, you ſhould adhere ſtrongly to it yourſelf. You will, no doubt, have bills to make, charges to affix, and even in

an order of four or five different articles, without a proper regard to Accuracy, many miſtakes may occur, which may put you to ſome inconvenience to adjuſt them, which, though but trifling, perhaps, would have been better, had they been avoided.

AFFECTION.

BY this term, you are to underſtand, a firm and inviolable regard for your maſter, and his family; for without you have the intereſt of your maſter at heart, it is impoſſible to keep ſtrict

ſtrict to your duty. The ſame affection is due from your maſter to you; but though he may not have the opportunities of ſhewing it, which you have, he is as worthy of your attachment, and while you are under his protection, make him your guide and only adviſer.

AFFABILITY.

AS I ſpeak more to apprentices in a retail ſituation, this quality will be found of eſſential ſervice, as the moſt certain me thod to enſure a return of your cuſ-

tomer. There are various opportunities of exerciſing this engaging virtue. If cuſtomers are inquiſitive, hard to pleaſe, or ſhould object to the article propoſed, either in quality or price, by a gentle and modeſt Affability, they will the ſooner be won to agree to terms. When cuſtomers enter your maſter's ſhop, you ſhould firſt obſerve what ſort of behaviour ſeems moſt likely to ſuit their diſpoſitions. One will be very grave, while a ſecond will be lively and briſk, a third will be very proud, while a fourth will ſolicit your advice on every trivial occaſion. To each of theſe, Affability is pleaſing, (when under ſome little reſtraint.) The grave perſon cannot avoid admiring, though he does not join in your remarks; the lively perſon will moſt probably be glad to find

a youth

a youth who haſt been taught ſo well the art of pleaſing, and whoſe diſpoſition ſo exactly coincides with his own. The proud will admire in ſilence; their looks will betray them; and the humble will ſpread the fame of your Affability over all their connexions, and thoſe who hear the pleaſant news, will think it no trouble to come from all parts of the town to your maſter's ſhop.

ACTIVITY.

LET me earneſtly recommend this quality to you, as it will at once, in a great meaſure tend to ſecure to you,

your maſter's favour. There is nothing delights a cuſtomer more, than to receive briſkly, and without delay, the article he aſks for. He remarks with pleaſure your alertneſs, and willingneſs to oblige, and ſets you up as an example in every company he may afterwards engage in.

I have ſeen apprentices in many ſhops, take as much time to find an article, as would have been ſufficient for another to have weighed the quantity, and to have written a bill and receipt. The cauſe of this delay is often by an inattention to regularity;—but of that, when we come to ſpeak under that head.

Shame on a young man, ſtrong and healthy, with every limb ſtout and able,

who moves as if ſome one were drawing him the contrary way, or as if he was allowed to make but *ſo* many ſteps in a day! Rather let him employ to the beſt advantage, thoſe members, which he may rejoice, are not rendered incapable of action, by lameneſs, or any other misfortune, and thus ſhew his gratitude to him who has preſerved him from thoſe perils, many of his fellow creatures have endured.

ANGER.

ABOVE all things, endeavour to overcome this deteſtable vice. When once you yield to the impulſe of Anger,

you know not where you may be hurried, or what you may be brought to do. To be angry with a cuſtomer, ſhould be impoſſible; let them ſay what they will, ſtill be not angry; it is very provoking to ſee all the pains you may take to pleaſe, defeated by the diſcontented diſpoſition of a fantaſtical cuſtomer; but ſhould ſuch a thing happen, (as no doubt it may) before your anger riſes, repeat the motto prefixed to this work, and my life on it! it performs a cure immediately; obſerve the ſame rule, in part, with reſpect to your maſter; you may now and then be vexed with his orders, but never let him know it, it is the only way to loſe the chance of one day gaining, what an apprentice ſhould make his chief purſuit,—your maſter's confidence.

I ſhall

I ſhall introduce a little tale here, which may not, perhaps, be unacceptable.

Anthony and Marcus were deprived of their affectionate parents, at the age of twenty, and eighteen. They were called to their dying mother, (who ſurvived her huſband but two days) to take a laſt farewell, and to receive under their joint care, an infant brother of five years of age; ſhe beſought them tenderly, to be his protectors, till his years of childhood were ſucceeded by thoſe of diſcretion; and to teach him, what they had ſo abundantly been taught,—to love virtue, and to abhor every idea of acting contrary to its principles and precepts. They promiſed faithfully to fulfil the important truſt; and their fond parent

cloſed

cloſed her eyes, imploring bleſſings on their endeavours.

Anthony had but one year of his apprenticeſhip to ſerve, but his kind maſter, knowing his ſituation, conſented to give up his indentures. Marcus had three years remaining, and as he well knew what good hands his little brother was in, ſerved on his time with cheerfulneſs.

How happy did the little Julio appear, while under the direction of Anthony! Every day he devoted his *leiſure* time to his improvement, (for do not imagine he lived unemployed) and was as a kind father to his little charge. Marcus at length had compleated his apprenticeſhip, and it was agreed between the brothers, to remain

main at home, ſo long as Julio's youth called for their attention.

Marcus was generous and affectionate, but too prone to be overtaken by the ſudden guſts of paſſion, and when that happened, dreadful were the effects.

Anthony was mild and patient; every little whim and caprice of Julio's, only ſerved to remind him of what he once had been; and he was well convinced, his parents had beſtowed as much care on him, and received as much trouble, as he could poſſibly have done, from his little brother.

Marcus, from his earlieſt youth, was remarkably fond of painting, and by an attentive practice, had acquired the

the art of taking likeneſſes, in an uncommon fine manner, by which means he contributed greatly to the aſſiſtance of his brother, in family expences.

A certain Earl, having ſeen one of his portraits, was ſo charmed with the manner of execution, that he immediately ſent for him to take his likeneſs, which, when he had done, he took home to finiſh the various little decorations which uſually accompany portraits; ſuch as drapery, hair, &c. As it lay on the deſk, Julio ran ſkipping by, and bruſhed it off, and what was worſe, by an involuntary motion, put his foot on it; having but juſt returned from walking, the picture was quite ſpoiled. The enraged brother ſtruck him to the ground, by a moſt violent blow on the forehead, without a moment's

a moment's conſideration, and the poor boy, lay ſenſeleſs, when Anthony entered. A cry of horror on his firſt recovery from a kind of lethargy, into which ſo dreadful a ſight had thrown him, was ſucceeded by a flood of tears on the body of his brother, who lay, alas! a ſenſeleſs corpſe.

"What have you done?" cried he, to Marcus.

Marcus was petrified; he could not anſwer; the crime of murder ſeemed to reflect ideas too piercing to bear. In an agony of deſpair, he curſed his anger, and appeared like one in a frenzy. Penetrated with grief and remorſe, as he became more cool, he omitted no experiment to facilitate his recovery, and ſwore to overcome ſo

formidable

formidable an enemy as paſſion. But alas! too late he repents; the beauteous flower he had thus untimely cropt, was now quite faded, and vain were his endeavours to make it reſume its priſtine beauty.

Anthony, the mild and patient Anthony, devoted from that hour, every moment of his life, to his poor brother, whoſe brain, (not able to ſuſtain the ſhock it had received from the conſideration of the crime he had been guilty of) was turned, and he ſurvived the hapleſs victim of his anger, but two months, and died raving in the arms of his brother, calling on the unfortunate Julio.

ANSWERS.

ANSWERS.

UNDER this denomination, I might diſcourſe till I had brought arguments to my aſſiſtance, ſufficient to ſupply the place of any I may have occaſion to uſe on future ſubjects.

On the anſwers given by the aſſiſtants in a ſhop to the cuſtomers, the ſucceſs of the maſter depends; you cannot therefore be too cautious how you reply. Let your anſwers be given in the manner you think will turn to the beſt account: as thus, if a haughty queſtion is aſked, return an anſwer moſt likely to overcome its antagoniſt;

goniſt; I mean by that, an anſwer, that will not admit of a repetition of the manner in which the queſtion was firſt put. If your articles are found fault with, be ſure by your anſwer to win the cuſtomer to a ſecond trial, and by that means, ſecure your maſter's reputation, and lay the foundation of your own.

APOLOGY.

THERE are many who think it degrading to own themſelves in the wrong, or to make the ſmalleſt confeſſion of any impropriety they may have been guilty of; inſtead of being in the moſt trifling degree humbled, his character, who makes an apology for

for an unintentional offence, is greatly exalted. To own oneſelf in the wrong, ſhews a nobleneſs of ſpirit, and a love of honour, which ſeldom fails to procure eſteem and patronage; while to perſiſt in a miſtaken idea, betrays a meanneſs extremely prejudicial to the future welfare of a young man, eſpecially an apprentice.

ART.

THIS denomination ſignifies, *here* the ſecret of your maſter's buſineſs, which is the goal you ought to be in purſuit of; you ſhould ſpare no pains to arrive at it, as you will thereby be

enabled ſooner to commence an honeſt and reſpectable means of ſubſiſtence, than if you had claimed what is vulgarly termed "the Apprentices Privilege;"—but more of this, under the title of Holydays.

In your endeavours to attain the Art of your maſter's buſineſs, be aware of deceit and cunning; depend upon it, every inſtance of it, will keep you back from the ſummit of your wiſhes, and the oftener repeated, the more will they increaſe your ſhame, and confuſion. How much more to be preferred is a fortune, acquired by fourteen, or twenty years honeſt and induſtrious labour, than in half that time, by cunning extortion, or unjuſt monopoly, to the ruin of the poor, to whom you are indebted almoſt as much as they are to you.

ASSIDUITY.

ASSIDUITY.

WITHOUT a full determination to be conſtantly Aſſiduous, it is impoſſible to be a good apprentice. You are bound for ſeven, or ſome other number of years; it is then your duty to do as much during that term, as you poſſibly can. You ſhould never bring as an argument for not doing to the utmoſt of your ability; that fooliſh ſpeech I have more than once heard, namely, "My father did not pay three hundred guineas to make me a ſlave!" Can and ſpeech ſhew a greater mark of folly? your father (if he

ſeeks your welfare) gave the premium to have you well inſtructed in the buſineſs; your maſter, (if he is a juſt man) will take care to do his duty, in teaching you every thing belonging to his art, and you ſhould ſeek every occaſion of learning ſomething more, day by day, which you may eaſily do, without being made, or making yourſelf, a *ſlave*.

ATTENTION.

THIS is as unneſſary, a quality, if not the moſt of all, an apprentice ſhould poſſeſs;—an unremitting attention to cuſtomers at once ſecures their

their favour; nothing pleaſes more, nothing tends ſo much towards the increaſe of your maſter's fame. Let your cuſtomer be rich or poor, genteel or homely, if they come with money in their hands, the ſtricteſt attention is their due; and let this reflection confirm you in the idea, the poorer a perſon is, the more ſweet is attention, and they will always return where they imagine the maſter is obliged to them for the preference: and be ſure never to forget, at the departure of a cuſtomer, an acknowledgment of the obligation you are under to them. Pay the greateſt attention to the ſhop and chairs; obſerve in the morning, whether they be fit to receive a lady from her carriage, and (if winter) never omit reſpectfully offering to conduct her to the 'counting-houſe, or parlour,

parlour, where there is a fire, and where you may take her orders with proper deference to her rank; for though a perſon with three-pence in her hand, deſerves the ſame thanks, and the beſt commodities, yet it is a part of the ſubject in queſtion, to pay a due regard to quality.

BARGAIN.

I Need not inform you, you are forbidden in your indentures, to have any dealings on your own account, during the term of your apprenticeſhip. There is no ſentence ſo often uſed by way of excuſe, for extravagance, as,

"I had it a bargain!" Bargain, or not bargain, I would adviſe you to keep ſtrict the rules preſcribed in your indentures; for while an apprentice has on his mind a thing of more conſequence than his maſter's intereſt, he cannot do his duty.

BENEVOLENCE.

THOUGH you may apply to buſineſs with all the aſſiduity you are capable of, though you may riſe daily in your maſter's favour, and though money be your chief purſuit, (aſſiſted by thoſe never failing friends, induſtry and economy) ſtill let me entreat

you, daily to devote a thought towards the diſtreſſes of your fellow creatures, and I am convinced, the reflection will lead you to pity, and you will endeavour to relieve them.

Think while you are in the midſt of mirth and happineſs, a brave tar, an affectionate widow, with a helpleſs offspring, an aged man, deprived of that moſt valuable bleſſing, the eye-ſight, may be at your door, begging you to contribute a triffle to their ſupport; you cannot in ſuch caſes plead (as you would to the common, idle vagrant) the workhouſe is open for your reception: nor ſhould you thus deny them, "my maſter is not at home;" but kindly from your own purſe, adminiſter that comfort you will never miſs, and which will be received by them, with

with never fading gratitude. It may eaſily be ſeen, whether the object that preſents itſelf, is, or is not, deſerving of charity. Thoſe who ſeem incumbered with bodily defects, but moſt of all, the maimed ſailor, ſhould never leave your door unregarded. When you conſider well the dangers he has braved, the hardſhips he has undergone, and perhaps at laſt, eſcapes with the loſs of a leg or an arm! Pity will come to the aſſiſtance of you, both to eaſe *your* heart, and comfort the poor forſaken pleader.

A recent act of Benevolence, I ſhall beg permiſſion to relate:

Sandford was an apprentice in an extenſive trade in the city; his parents were but in low circumſtances, and conſequently

consequently could not afford him what is called pocket money: indeed, had it not been for the generosity of his master, who admiring his apparent quickness and ability, had taken him without a fee, he most probably would have been still immured in a little cot, with his parents in the country. His mother, though poor, had instructed him (from the first moment of hearing he was going to town) in the best method she was able to point out, of avoiding the many snares which are spread to allure unwary youth; and strongly recommended a firm adherence to truth and fidelity; but above all, she beg'd him not to forget to bestow what relief he could afford to his poor fellow creatures, as it was to humanity and benevolence he owed the comfortable situation he was going

to

to enter. He remembered her words; —indeed it was natural for a ſon, who never before was abſent from a parent, to retain the parting words of one he loved ſo dearly.

During the firſt year of his apprenticeſhip, he had various offers of being elected a member of ſocieties, clubs, and many other aſſociations, which his maſter had kindly cautioned him againſt accepting, and his advice was conſtantly followed.

By keeping himſelf free from company, whoſe characters he was unacquainted with, and by ſaving the little gifts he received as Chriſtmas boxes, together with his monthly pay of two ſhillings, (which his maſter generouſly allowed him from the firſt day

day of his coming) he had laid by one guinea and a half, in little more than two years, which was very much to his credit, conſidering the attraction of London.

He had pleaſed himſelf for many days, with the idea of ſending his money to his parents, as he was ſure they wanted it more than himſelf; and his maſter (who came from the ſame country) had promiſed to encloſe it in a packet. It wanted but three days to the time, it was to be ſent, when a poor woman (who had long been a trifling cuſtomer at the ſhop, but whom they miſſed for ſome weeks) came hobbling in, the tears ſtreaming from her eyes, and apparently in the greateſt diſtreſs. Sandford alone

alone being in the ſhop, thus ſhe delivered her piteous tale:

" O, Mr. Sandford! to be reduced to the neceſſity of aſking charity, is almoſt too much for one to bear, who has always been remarked as I have for honeſty and neatneſs; but, ſir, when you hear my ſad ſtory, you will not refuſe me a trifling aſſiſtance towards paying a debt, which, if not diſcharged within two days, you will ſee me, and my two children, driven from our home, and begging in the public ſtreets. You may perhaps remember, what a froſty night it was, the laſt time I was here; on that very night, ſir, juſt as I got to my own door, my foot ſlipped, and I received a violent ſprain, by falling with great violence, my leg bent almoſt under me. Since

that

that time I have never been able to do the ſmalleſt piece of work, towards earning ſomething for my ſupport; the neighbours have been very kind to me, till lately, when finding me grow worſe, inſtead of better, and thinking it impoſſible I ſhould ever live to repay them, they all deſerted me, and my landlord threatened to turn me out of the houſe, with my poor dear children, unleſs I could procure five and twenty ſhillings, which I owe for a quarter's rent. I have been able to crawl to one or two of my old friends who have aſſiſted me with five ſhillings, but unleſs I can raiſe the remainder, to-day or to-morrow, what will become of me, the Lord only knows!"

Sandford

Sandford heard her with attention, and was much affected by her tale; but at the inſtant he was on the point of puting into her hand a guinea, (and thus be himſelf the means of her deliverance) the thought of taking it from his dear parents, held his hand, and he heſitated how to anſwer the poor woman. At length however, Benevolence conquered, and he gave her the guinea, reſolving to ſave every halfpenny, till he had replaced it. She could not expreſs her gratitude by words; ſhe wept; ſhe prayed; ſhe bleſt him a thouſand times, and he was almoſt forced to hurry her from the ſhop, to make room for ſome cuſtomers who were going to enter. She did not leave the ſhop unperceived by his maſter, who came in at the very inſtant, and inquired what had brought her again,

after

after ſo long an abſence; but without waiting for an anſwer, aſked if his money was ready to ſend to his parents, as he had an earlier opportunity of conveying it, than he had before expected. Sandford heſitated.

"What," ſaid his maſter, "are you then, ſorry, that you propoſed ſending your money to your father and mother? Do you wiſh to retract your offer?"

The idea that his maſter entertained ſo unworthy a thought of him, was too much to bear in ſilence.

"No, ſir," he replied, "I do not heſitate whether or no I ſhall ſend it, far be ſuch thoughts from me! but I—

I— (he ſtammered) I really have it not."

" Ho! ho!" returned his maſter, " you have perhaps made ſome purchaſe, ſince I offered to———."

Sandford would not let him proceed; but related in as modeſt a manner as poſſible, the above mentioned act of Generoſity, concluding with, " I doubt not, ſir, but by another ſix months, I ſhall ſave my Guinea, and I ſhall then ſend it to my parents with double joy."

" No, my worthy boy," ſaid his maſter, " your tale would draw a guinea from a miſer's purſe, but heaven forbid I ſhould be of that number! give me your remaining money, I will

add to it what you ſo benevolently beſtowed on that poor woman, and I ſhall ſhed tears of joy, while I write an account of the noble act, to your parents, whoſe hearts I am well aſſured will be elated with the moſt fervent pleaſure, at the tranſport of poſſeſſing a ſon, an honour to ſociety, and a bleſſing to them in their old age."

BOOK-KEEPING.

LET you books be as free from blots, erratas, &c. as poſſible; I ſay as poſſible, becauſe it is almoſt an impoſſibility to avoid the little caſualties of

of the counter, where the books are conſtantly expoſed. Make your entries legible and correct, and ſpare no pains to make them ſo at firſt; depend upon it, you will ſave time by this attention, as by different errors, and frequent ſcratching out, you totally efface the part of the page you wiſh to occupy, and render it unfit for future ſervice.

BUSINESS.

NEVER ſeem to have ſomething to do. There is nothing ſo prejudicial to a ſhop, as an idle appearance in any of the aſſiſtants. When a perſon paſ-

ſes a ſhop, his eye is caught by either of the following objects: A buſy active maſter, or foreman, encouraging his apprentices, by his example, to induſtry and expedition; or a parcel of lazy indolent young men, picking their fingers, for want of better employment: perhaps you will ſay, if it is for want of employment, why are they worthy reproach? I anſwer, an apprentice never need be idle: in every trade there is ſomething to do even if the ſhop is void of cuſtomers for an hour or more: prepare for their reception, according to the trade in which you are placed. If grocer, druggeſt, or any trade, where ſcales or papers of different ſizes are uſed, ſee there is a proper aſſortment of every thing, to avoid making your cuſtomers wait, when perhaps they may be in a hurry.

a hurry. See your drawers or canniſters are all full; and any article you keep ground or beaten, be careful you have a ſufficient quantity by you, to be at hand in caſe of neceſſity. I never would frequent that ſhop, where I was made to wait more than once, while the article I wanted was ground, beat, or obliged to be ſent out for. On this ſubject, I might bring many more arguments, but I ſhould interfere with my future arrangement.

CANDOUR.

THIS virtue, tho' it is not to be ſo inviolably adhered to, as many others, is highly deſerving a conſpicuous place here.

Cuſtomers, who know you are inclined to be candid, without the leaſt reſerve, will abide by your word (when they wiſh to purchaſe a commodity that you warrant to be in good condition) without heſitation; while on the other hand, if you have once deceived them, by impoſing on them a bad article, with a good character, they will never give you a chance of repeating the impoſition, or making amends. Such a neglect is eaſier avoided, then mended.

CAREFUL.

CAREFULNESS.

AN apprentice, who upon his firſt entrance into his maſter's ſhop, ſhews a careful diſpoſition, is ſure to gain particular eſteem. It is not a ſlow performance of any thing, that enſures care; (I hope you do not ſo miſconceive me,) but there is a kind of method in doing things, which ought to be regularly obſerved. A perſon may be quick, and yet careful; and it is often ſeen, a perſon is ſlow and yet remarkably careleſs.

Carefulneſs is a great recommendation; and the moſt careful apprentice, will find the greateſt confidence placed in him.

CIVILITY.

I Am now come to that load-ſtone, (I may term it) Civility: if you did but know how this quality is eſteemed, you never would fail in the practice of it.

Civility will do almoſt any thing: It will reconcile the offended cuſtomer; attract, and retain the genteel, eſpecially the female cuſtomer, and is ſure

ſure to obtain many voices to ſound its praiſe.

When a perſon aſks their acquaintance where they deal, the ſecond queſtion is generally, "are they civil?" Remember likewiſe, more cuſtomers are loſt by the neglect of this practical virtue, than by any other inattention. A cuſtomer will often aſſume a falſe pride, when he comes to give an order longer than common, but when he has civility to encounter, he is inſtantly diſarmed, pride forſakes him, and he cheerfully joins in converſation with the perſon who has thus vanquiſhed him. When you have offended either maſter or cuſtomer, never fail to call civility to your aſſiſtance; and if you keep it within bounds, and

avoid

avoid that deteſtable companion, flattery, it will turn to the greateſt advantage.

CLEANLINISS.

WITHOUT a regular attention to cleanlineſs, an apprentice may, and moſt probably will, degenerate into a ſloven.

When you riſe, if your buſineſs will not permit you to dreſs entirely, before you enter the ſhop, you muſt obey; nevertheleſs, do not appear with your breaſt open, you ſtockings hanging about your heels, and your hair uncombed,

combed, but above all, I would recommend to you, as early as poſſible, to waſh face, neek, and hands. Nothing will diſpleaſe a maſter more, than joining him at breakfaſt, dinner, or ſupper, with unclean hands; and cuſtomers are more liable to take offence at this neglect, than almoſt at any thing elſe. To ſee a dirty hand go into a canniſter or glaſs, or meaſure a nice clean muſlin, or (even in an oilman's ſhop) into a jar, is a very diſguſting ſight, and ſeldom fails to incite the reproof of the cuſtomers. How degrading muſt ſuch a reproof be! how unpleaſant to the feelings of a ſenſible young man! he will then, no doubt, reſolve to alter; but how far preferable had been a proper regard to cleanlineſs, before heneededthe mortification of a reproof.

COMPANY.

BE careful, be extremely careful, with what company you may get connected during your apprenticeship; the fewer new acquaintance, the better.

It is natural for a young man to wish to join (what he may think) innocent parties of pleasure, but unless he is well acquainted with the characters of his associates, he knows not what he may be led to commit.

Many

Many a poor fellow at the gallows, (do not think my language too harſh, I wiſh it to be impreſſive) has curſed the day he firſt entered into the ſociety of thoſe who proved his ruin: he little thought at the beginning of his career, he ſhould ever have been guilty of what brought him to that ignominious death. He little thought (like George Barnwell) he ever could have been guilty of robbing his maſter, to ſatisfy the importunities of his companions, or far worſe, his female connexions. But the effects of bad company generally tend to ſuch ungrateful deeds.

A worthy indulgent maſter is the victim to the artifices uſed by his apprentice, at the inſtigation of a deteſtable gang of ſharpers, for ſuch are they,

they, who generally inſinuate themſelves into the confidence of the poor unſuſpecting youth, who is at laſt brought to be guilty of an act, he in the early days of his innocence, would have ſhuddered to have heard pronounced.

Chuſe your company from among thoſe likely to improve you, and always aſſociate with your ſuperiors, rather than your inferiors, as from them you may acquire the moſt benefit.

COMMO-

COMMODITY.

UNDER this head, I ſhall take the liberty to addreſs you, as juſt ſet up in buſineſs. Let every article you deal in, be of the very beſt quality, though you may ſell little or much. it is no ſaving to hazard a bad article to your cuſtomers, for if you are once found out, (which is always the caſe, ſooner or later) you are expoſed as a dangerous man to deal with, and your ſhop is univerſally avoided.

Deal at thoſe wholeſale warehouſes, where you can depend on meeting with the

the moſt deſirable goods, and do not be averſe to give a couple of ſhillings per hundred more than you would elſewhere, if the commodity is ſuperior in quality. The fame you will acquire by conſtantly ſelling a good article, will be more than adequate to the difference in price. There are many men who think to amaſs a large fortune, by buying an article at a reduced price, (which muſt conſequently be of an inferior quality) but, by the time they have ſold a third part, to their great amazement, they find their cuſtomers decreaſe, and may perhaps have the mortification to hear, that their ſhop is avoided from the inattention to the quality of the goods. The remainder of thecommodity remain on their hands, and at the end of the year, they have to thank their own folly, for

the very great difference between the debtor and creditor, ſide of their books, to their diſadvantage.

CONFUSION.

SHOULD buſineſs increaſe, ſhould your maſter's ſhop be crowded with cuſtomers, yet avoid Confuſion. You can have no plea in its favour, as when you have attained its ſummit, you are delayed and perplexed ten times more, than if you had regularly proceeded. It would not be amiſs in ſuch caſes, to call civility to your aid; indeed you will find it the moſt uſeful companion in all caſes of perplexity.

Confuſion to a retail trader, is a very great hindrance to buſineſs, as, without the greateſt care, it affronts the cuſtomers, and delays a more uſeful occupation than that of ſetting things to rights; to avoid this, let me preſcribe the following rules:

When you want to weigh or meaſure, take your weights, &c. and when you have done with them, put them immediately in the very ſame place from whence they came, and never let there be ſeen a parcel of papers, or articles laying about, when a tenth part of the quantity would have anſwered the purpoſe.

To avoid confuſion, is far eaſier than to remedy it; and this you will find the

the caſe, with many other little inadvertencies, young apprentices are often prone to.

CONSCIENCE.

LET me earneſtly recommend to you, to obey the dictates of your Conſcience. If you are ever inclined (from the trouble a cuſtomer endeavours to give you) to make an unfair charge, conſcience will revolt at the thought; then do not you combat ſuch a laudable antagoniſt, and by acting in oppoſition to your conſcience, lay a foundation for future acts of fraud.

When a cuſtomer enters who appears thoroughly ignorant of the article he demands, either in price or quality, and leaves the arrangement to you, could you ſo forget the precept of "doing as you would be done by," as to make an extraordinary charge, or put him off with a bad commodity? I really think I may ſay, no; I hope I may, with reſpect to my readers, but I know ſuch things have been done, and ſhame to ſay, without remorſe; and when the victim has left the ſhop, or warehouſe, the ſhopman or apprentice, has laughed at the cuſtomer's credulity. Pity it is, ſo unerring a guide as conſcience, ſhould be ſo expoſed to, and ſo frequently overcome by thoſe cruel antagoniſts, deceit and cunning. Had the murderer, the robber, the deceiver, obeyed

ed the dictates of their conſcience, they would not have had ſuch cauſe to curſe their firſt offence; but conſcience once overcome, eaſily falls a ſecond time a victim, as may be ſeen in the following little tale.

Charles Dalton was apprenticed to Mr. Williamſon, a retail tradeſman in the city; Charles had received the uſual advice given by the tender parent to the ſon, on ſuch an occaſion, and was naturally inclined to duty and perſeverance; but he had ſcarce ſerved two years of his time, before he plainly ſaw (or thought he ſaw) that his ſchoolfellow, Edward Banks, was in a far more agreeable ſituation. The reaſon was this, Edward was apprentice to a wholeſale trader, and was conſtantly at leiſure at eight

o'clock; likewiſe, as he lived in the Strand, he had frequent opportunities of going to the theatre at half price, an amuſement to which Charles was extremely partial.

Mr. Williamſon had been accuſtomed to pay a viſit to Charles's father, twice a year, and conſtantly gave him the beſt of characters, as an apprentice, which muſt naturally have given riſe to the moſt grateful ſenſations in a parent's heart.

Charles ſtill looking on Edward's ſituation as preferable to his own, and the converſations they had together, ſerved but to increaſe his deſire to participate in the forbidden pleaſure, which he reſolved to do, and thereby improve

improve the preſent diſagreeable manner of ſpending his time.

Mr. Williamſon went regularly twice every week, to ſup with his brother, and always left the ſhop before eight o'clock; it therefore occurred to Charles, that it would be eaſy to ſhut up the ſhop on ſuch nights, and to partake of an innocent recreation, as well as another; but the encomiums ſo often laviſhed on him before company, and his own conſcience, which till now had never had occaſion to exert its power, checked the riſing thought of infidelity.

However, one or two more conferences with Edward, made him reſolve to attempt it, and the very next night of his maſter's abſence, he ſhut up the

ſhop at eight o'clock. and went to the play, leaving the houſe to the care of the porter, and a maid ſervant, never r flecting that a cuſtomer might want ſomething in eaſe of illneſs, during his abſence. He came off victorious; on his return, he found all right, and that he had not been wanted.

His firſt eſſay ſucceeding ſo well, made him inſtantly form a reſolution to take the ſame advantage every week, and for ſome months he really went twice every week, to the theatre.

One night as uſual, he was preparing to depart, when feeling in his pocket, he found he had not a ſhilling, and well he remembered how the laſt went. He could not bear the idea of diſappointment; the idea of taking from

from the till was worſe. At laſt he reſolved to *borrow* from his maſter's money, and to replace it the firſt opportunity. He took the ſum wanted, and went.

Alas! the next evening he found, ſo far from being able to repay what he had borrowed, he had occaſion to increaſe the debt.—He heſitated not; ſo ſoon does conſcience yield, when once by ſtrategem beſieged. From that day he heſitated not to take the ſum his idle wants required.

He had lived near four months in this diſhoneſt way, when he received a letter from his parents, full of bleſſings and encomiums, on his faithful and obedient conduct, (as related to them by his maſter) and the ſame night

night he was desired to sup in the parlour. After supper Mr. Williamson addressed him in a long and affectionate speech, thanking him for his fidelity, during the time he had been with him, and exhorting him to continue in the pursuit of integrity and virtue.

Charles made no reply, his conscience told him he deserved no such tribute of gratitude and affection, and he burst into tears. The length of time before he recovered power to speak, betrayed the agitation of his mind.

"What ails thee, my boy?" said Mr. Williamson.

"O, sir," replied he, "I am not worthy the confidence you place in me.

me. Until this half year, I ſhuddered at the thought of wronging you of a ſingle farthing, but ſince that time I have borrowed, nay, rather ſtole, every week, ſix ſhillings, and ſometimes more;—believe me, ſir," added he, "I fully intended to replace what I ſo unwarrantably purloined; but I found my allowance ſtill fall ſhort of my expences."

"Your expences!" cried Mr. Williamſon, "what expences can you poſſibly be liable to?"

"Ah, ſir," replied Charles, "I ſaw how frequently my friend Edward went to the play, and (how can I ſpeak it?) each night of your abſence, I have gone likewiſe.—I uſed to cauſe the ſhop to be ſhut rather earlier on that account;

account; and I now wait with ſubmiſſion, for that puniſhment, I ſo juſtly merit."

"Charles," ſaid his maſter, "your fault, though great, is not the impulſe of a bad heart, and your repentance appears ſo truly ſincere, it would ill become me to take meaſures for your puniſhment; as I flatter myſelf, by the remorſe you feel, you will be brought to look back with that horror, on a diſhoneſt practice, as when innocence was your only companion and guide. Let not what you call the indulgence of another, tempt you to obtain the ſame. Do not you envy the pleaſures of fooliſh youth, who wantonly ſpend their money, and when that is gone, have recourſe to———. But I will not renew your diſtreſs; I will now

now leave you, and I am perſuaded, conſcience will regain ſuch abſolute ſway, you will never be induced to attempt to combat her refuſal on any future ſchemes in life.

CUSTOMS.

FROM the time you become acquainted with that part of the buſineſs under your care, form a ſet of cuſtoms or rules, which if ſtrictly adhered to, will aſſiſt you, when hurried by more cuſtomers than uſual; as for inſtance, make it an invariable rule to put by ſuch things as you move out of their places, the minute you have done

done with them, except when your cuſtomer is in a very great hurry; then indeed, common civility requires you ſhould ſerve them before you replace your drawer or canniſter. Make it, likewiſe another rule, when you ſend out goods on credit, to ſee your book and your bill of parcels are the ſame amount. Another rule, and a very eſſential one, ſhould be this: In caſe a cuſtomer is in want of ſeveral articles, do not wait till they are all put up, but while you are getting them, calculate the amount in your head, and you will not detain him longer than can poſſibly be avoided. Theſe little cuſtoms with one or two more, conſtantly adhered to, will prove of infinite ſervice to an apprentice.

DECEIT.

DECEIT.

AVOID the ſlighteſt cauſe for ſuſpicion of deceit: you may now and then eſcape with impunity on earth) but if it be once expoſed, your character is loſt for ever, and your maſter's ſhop, publicly ſpoken of, with deteſtation.

There are various methods of deceit, which without a due attention to what has been ſaid under the head, Conſcience, may tempt you to embrace them. Shun them as you would avoid deſtruction; nor let the ſtrongeſt arguments

arguments in the world tempt you to ſo vile an action. If your Cuſtomer be poor, or if he be ignorant, and you deceive him, you are doubly blameable.

Keep clear from bad company, and you are in afair way to out ſtrip all your competitors in the race of integrity. I have a tale here, which, though not illuſtrative of the above mentioned methods of deceit, is not unworthy your ſerious peruſal, as while it ſhews the ill conſequences of a too frequent abſence in the maſter of a ſhop, it demonſtrates how landable a thing it is to combat unlawful temptations.

Mr. Melville, after having attained that ſummit of his wiſhes, a little country box, where he, and his wife and family

family retired, committed the principal care of his buſineſs, to his two apprentices, Arthur and Henry, and made it a rule to come once in the week to ſettle his accounts. Henry had ſerved him faithfully for three years; Arthur, five and a half. It was cuſtomary on Friday night, to prepare for the maſter's coming, which in general was on Saturday morning, and though the weekly receipts were ſometimes three hundred pounds, and often more, they never let fall a ſentiment which pointed at infidelity, or by an unguarded ſentence, gave reaſon to imagine they were in the ſmalleſt degree envious, or diſcontented.

They had contracted a friendſhip with Lawrence, a ſhopman, who lived exactly oppoſite to them, and by fre-

quent visits on both sides in a familiar way, a kind of reciprocal confidence had been formed, which exceeded the rules of an apprentice's indentures in a literal sense. but as they thought they were thoroughly acquainted with the character of Lawrence, they did not fear his acting unworthy of the name of friend.

It frequently happened, that Lawrence (whose master's shop was constantly shut, an hour earlier than Mr. Melville's) would call in at the very time they were counting the receipt of the day, and to so *worthy* a friend being present, they made no objection, but went on with their accounts, as fast as conversation would permit.

The

The ſight of ſo much money in the care of ſuch young people, created ideas in the mind of this friend, which were not likely to vaniſh at a repetition; but every time he came, he ſeemed more deep in thought, than he had ever been before. Arthur obſerved this change in his behaviour, and one night ſurpriſed him, with the old phraſe, "a penny for your thoughts;" this ſtartled him, and he eagerly replied, "my thoughts are worth a thouſand pence, aye, ten thouſand." Arthur deſired he would explain, but this artful man, only added a ſentence here and there, to inflame them with a deſire of increaſing their little private ſtock at all hazards. After he thought he had ſufficiently worked upon their young minds, he addreſſed them in a ſpeech, concerning the liber-

ties they were deprived of, and the bleſſings which would flow in upon them, if they had a ſufficient quantity of money, to yield to the many allurements held out by pleaſure.

They both agreed to his obſervation in ſome meaſure, but Henry added, "it may be all for the beſt as it is, I muſt confeſs, I am not diſcontented."

This was not the anſwer expected by Lawrence, however, he did not give up his deſign, but ſaid, he would ſtay and eat a bit of bread and cheeſe, with them, if they were not better engaged.

"Not at all," ſaid Arthur, "and I aſſure you, you have hit the mark, bread and cheeſe is our conſtant ſupper,

per, except when we have any cold meat in the houſe."

They had by this time finiſhed their accounts, and were all round the table in the parlour, when Lawrence deſired they would ſend to the eating houſe for ſomething nice, and calling the ſervant, he bade him bring a cold chicken, and a plate of ham, at the ſame time putting half a guinea into his hand. Henry was much againſt it, and was proceeding to call back the ſervant, when Lawrence interrupted him, with, "Don't mention it, only return the viſit as ſoon as you can, that I may come and ſee you again."

"We will return your viſit," ſaid Arthur, "but to return your civility,

is out of our power, I wiſh we were able."

" You wiſh you were able," exclaimed Lawrence, " I'll tell you how you may;" at the ſame time putting on the table, five guineas, " you ſee theſe," ſaid he, " well, how do you think I can afford to carry five guineas in my pocket, when my ſalery is but thirty pounds a year? you ſhall hear; I don't think my maſter gives me wages enough, ſo I make him advance them."

Make him!" cried Henry.

" Aye," replied he, " you know I take an account of all the caſh, and it is eaſy enough, to change a figure of

of eight, to a five, and pocket the odd three for my trouble."

"What!" they both exclaimed, with aſtoniſhment.

"I'll tell you what," ſaid he, "it is utterly impoſſible for any one to have the care of ſo much money as I have, without now and then borrowing a guinea, and forgetting to repay it."

"Do you really then think every caſh keeper is a villain?" ſaid Henry

"I think him a fool if he is not: replied the other, "why now, what could be eaſier, than for you to allow yourſelves, each two guineas a week? and who would be the wiſer? I have done ſo for theſe laſt ſix months.

"That may be," ſaid Arthur, "but as I can ſafely ſay, I have been truly honeſt ever ſince I was firſt entruſted with the care of the caſh, the advice of a night ſhall not ſhake fidelity of ſo firm a foundation! and depend upon it," added Henry, "you will feel a blow when you leaſt expect it, you will be but little able to withſtand."

"Well," ſaid Lawrence, very much diſconcerted, "I will renew this ſubject the next time we meet, and perhaps I may at laſt convince you of the benefit it would be to us all."

He then went away, ſupper being over, and was no ſooner out of hearing, than they both made a firm reſolution, never

never to admit him up ſtairs, or even into the houſe again.

There was however no need for this reſolution, for it was not long before they heard he had been detected by the apprentice where he lived, that the articles which were found in his poſſeſſion, were almoſt incredible, and that he would take his trial at the next ſeſſions. Arthur and Henry attended the trial, and heard ſentence of death, pronounced on a man, who not long before, had wanted to make them partners in his execrable ſchemes, and moſt probably they would have been partners in his ignominious death; but this they avoided by a ſteady regard to fidelity; and have now cauſe to bleſs the day, when their fond parents' kind advice was given, which

was

was, " to ſhun deceit, in the moſt trifling affair; as when once the walls of honeſty were thrown down, the current of vice would ſoon overwhelm them."

DECENCY.

IN public ſhops, there is nothing ſo offenſive to the ear, (yet I am ſorry to ſay, ſo frequent) as immodeſt language, without regard to the preſence of a cuſtomer. With apprentices, this immorality is unpardonable, and to avoid it, a proper reſtrained converſation ſhould be kept up among companions,

nions, which would prevent them from uttering any improper ſentence at a future period.

DELAY.

NEVER omit doing what your maſter may require, likewiſe to do it at the very time it is aſked, otherwiſe you loſe the merit of compliance. There may be reaſons for having a thing done immediately, though you may not perceive them, and think perhaps, an hour hence may do as well, but you are not to think in thoſe caſes, your maſter is to command, and you are to obey;—

but

but more of this, when I come to ſpeak of Obedience.

When firſt you riſe, you moſt probably have ſome ſtated buſineſs to do; never let that be delayed, for if ſuch an employment is allotted for that time, by your maſter, you ought to imagine no other part of the day, is ſo fit to do it in.

DRESS.

IF once you fix your mind on Dreſs, and learn to prize your outward appearance, more than your duty to your maſter, you may be *given over* as a

a good apprentice. Not but dreſs ſhould be comely and neat, and I do not entirely exclude faſhion, only the extremities of it, into which young folkes are ſo apt to precipitate themſelves, and which generally turn out to their very great diſadvantage in life. Never be ſeen ragged, nor even with the ſmalleſt hole in any part of your dreſs, for it is more creditable to be ſeen in a neat patched coat, than in a ſuperb dreſs, *out at elbows.*

DUTY.

As ſoon as you are inſtructed in your Duty, let not the greateſt perſuaſion

ſion tempt you to paſs it over, even in the abſence of your maſter; but ſhew a ſtedfaſt regard to his commands, and let your companions ſee their arguments have no power over a mind, determined to reſiſt evil temptations. We will ſuppoſe you are once drawn to a neglect of your duty in your maſter's abſence, and omit ſeveral very important things which ſhould have been done, and which were committed to your care alone; you are then in the clutches of your deluders, they can wind you about at their pleaſure, you are their ſlave, their ſervant, or at the leaſt ſign of reſiſtance, you are expoſed (to your great ſhame) to a maſter, who placed in you more confidence than in the reſt of his ſervants, relying on your obedience to his commands. Think then, how degrading!

to

to be deſpiſed by him, who (had you remained unſhaken by the bad councils of others) might have taken you into the buſineſs, as a juſt reward for your upright behaviour.

EMULATION

EMULATION is highly laudable, when its object is worthy the purſuit.

I would have every apprentice fired with Emulation, to excel in that branch of trade in which he is placed, and likewiſe in the capacity he is in, as a good apprentice muſt make a good ſhopman, and he will certainly arrive

arrive at that much to be envied name, a reſpectable tradesman. Let not the conteſt be, who is ſeen the moſt frequent at the theatre, but who is the moſt aſſiduous at home; not who is the moſt faſhionably dreſt, but who is the moſt competent judge of the buſineſs; not who can ſhew the moſt money, but who is of the greateſt ſervice to their maſter, in the ſeveral qualities aforementioned.

ENVY.

THE difference between Envy and Emulation, is very great, yet ſo ſeldom is the proper diſtinction obſerved between

tween them, that the errors which are thereby occaſioned, are much to be lamented. A young man, without a proper director, and who has once been told to cheriſh Emulation, will, alas! become the victim of envy, while he imagines he is going the right path to honour and promotion; how thankful then, ſhould thoſe apprentices be, who have received a good education, and are under ſuch reſtrictions, as wiſe and affectionate parents think moſt conduſive to their benefit. Many there have been, who, though they have received the very beſt advice, have ſuffered themſelves to be led away, by the inſinuations of bad aſſociates, who pictured the happineſs of thoſe in a higher, and more diſſipated life, which by being the cauſe of envy, was the cauſe of their ruin.

I am not at a loſs for a tale, to ſhew how cautious we ſhould be, whom we envy; and how contented we ought each of us to be, in our reſpective ſtations.

Reginald Summers, though he had ſerved more than half his time, with the greateſt fidelity, often regarded the ſeeming happy ſituation of Jackſon, his near neighbour, with an envious eye. The truth was, Jackſon never appeared diſcontented; and Reginald was well convinced he muſt be the happieſt by far. He frequently obſerved him, but never did a frown intrude upon his brow; never did his accuſtomed ſerenity quit its native place! he wondered much, he thought he could plainly ſee his buſineſs was laborious, and that he had not a minute of

of leiſure time, but ſtill he perceived how far ſuperior in point of happineſs he lived, and often told him he envied him his ſituation. Jackſon always avoided that topic as ſoon as poſſible, but never could hear the remark without a ſigh. Reginald endeavoured to copy his behaviour, but the more he tried, it ſeemed as if envy gained additional power, and every day, he gave plain proofs of her dominion over him.

It happened one afternoon, when Jackſon had by chance called on him, (buſineſs being over) that he renewed his lamentations on the far inferior lot, in which fortune had placed him, to that enjoyed by Jackſon. He was here abruptly interrupted.

Jackſon exclaimed, " My dear Reginald, I have frequently obſerved theſe hints, and paſſed them over; but to let you ſee how little I deſerve your envy, I will unfold the ſecrets of my life, which never yet were told ſince I came to London.

" I was the youngeſt of five children; my parents were labouring people, and had you ſeen the ſcanty allowance we each day received, it would at once have deſtroyed every inclination to envy. I was, it ſeems, favoured by fortune above the reſt, in the ſhape of a gentleman, who put me out as an apprentice to a currier, where I ſerved my time (my maſter was kind enough to ſay) with great credit, and then made a journey to my native ſpot; but alas! my parents were dead, and I could

I could hear but of one brother, who lived as footman in a large family: it hurt me to aſk charity of a relation in ſuch low circumſtances, and by the time I returned to town, I found myſelf without a penny.

" I wandered for two days about the ſtreets, glad to live by ſmall jobs, ſuch as holding a gentleman's horſe while he alighted, who would perhaps give me two pence, or ſome ſuch ſmall matter; ſo their again my ſituation was not enviable.

" At laſt I heard of a place in my own line of buſineſs, but judge of my diſtreſs and mortification at hearing I was refuſed, from my woeful appearance, which I muſt own, was not very flattering, either with regard to

perſon or dreſs. However, I ſtill perſevered in my deſign, of keeping in London; and at laſt I heard of the ſituation where I now am, to which I came, with but three-pence in my pocket. My maſter very kindly hearing of my diſtreſs, gave me two guineas in advance, which I laid out to the beſt of my ability in dreſs, as it was neceſſary to appear decent, being always in his preſence. I had been here about two years, when a middling ſort of a man entered, and having bought ſome articles, ſtood as if thinking on ſome weighty affair, and ſo gave me an opportunity of ſeeing a face, which I at laſt recognized to be that of my brother. I endeavoured to make myſelf known, but, to my infinite aſtoniſhment, he ſaid, he had no brother alive, nor would he be brought to believe,

lieve, he had a relation, of no better appearance than myſelf, in the world. Every argument, every proof I endeavoured to bring, was of no avail; I repeated the youthful pleaſures, and various occurrences which happened in our childiſh days, but he would not own me: however, I continued my perſuaſions, and whether he was moved at the recital of paſt happineſs, or whether any other cauſe induced him, I know not, but he drew from his pocket, a white handkerchief, which I remembered to have been my father's beſt, (having been made a preſent to him) with his initials very plain in one corner: Now, ſaid I, will you acknowledge a long loſt brother? What need of further proof? "I want no one to take care of, beſide myſelf," replied he, and with a brutality that

ſhocked me, threw down his money, ſeized his parcel, and flung out of the ſhop. Since that period, you may judge the ſtate of my mind; my daily labour (which without doubt is very great) is nothing compared to the diſtreſs of being diſowned by a brother."

"How then" ſaid Reginald, "do you contrive to appear ſo contented? your conſtant ſmile is the cauſe of my———" he ſtammered.

"Do not ſay envy," replied Jackſon, "I have been in the extreme of poverty, and bleſs God, at my advancement to the place I now enjoy, I look back to what I have been, not forward, to what I wiſh to be; and the remembrance of my former low condition,

condition, checks the riſing thought of ambition, and diſcontent."

Reginald was converted; he plainly ſaw how ill-founded his ideas of contentment were, and reſolved to ſurmount the next approach of envy.

EXPEDITION.

YOU may perhaps ſee no reaſon for an explanation of this word, after what has been ſaid of *activity*; but give me leave to tell you, there you are miſtaken. A perſon may be diſabled in any limb, and conſequently void of activity, yet he may be expeditious.

When

When you are deſired to do a thing, leave it not till it is quite finiſhed, and you will have it compleated three times as ſoon as an active perſon, who talks or ſings, during the performance of his duty, his attention being called off.

There is a very merry demonſtration of this, in a farce of two acts, called, " Hunt the Slipper," a ſhoe maker complains of his men on account of their ſinging; he adds, he would let them ſing, if they ſang briſk tunes, becauſe they work in proportion to their notes; thus, he ſays, was one to ſing, " Roaſt Beef," and the other, " Water parted from the Sea," the firſt would finiſh a pair of ſhoes, before the latter would make half an one.

EXPENCE.

EXPENCE.

CONCERNING this word here, I only wiſh to ſhew the diſadvantage it is of to young men, as it is the ſure road to diſſipation. The word in itſelf, ſignifies neither virtue nor vice; except when in extreme, when it is the parent of the latter. An extravagant apprentice ſhould be an impoſſible thing, and it is on this account apprentices are ſo frequently confined to unremitting work; as their maſters think it their duty to keep them from becoming the daily victims of capricious faſhion, and thereby ſave them from

from being led into expence, their pockets cannot afford, and if they cannot afford it, where elſe muſt the money come from?—but more of this when we come to "Honeſty."

EXPERIENCE.

NEVER aſſume that knowledge which muſt be the effect of ſober expeence. To receive advice with cheerfulneſs, and to do to your utmoſt endeavour to follow it, is the beſt way to enſure your maſter's love, who certainly knows ſo much better than yourſelf, that his precepts may be of great advantage to you in future. Beſides, you

you are to conſider you are bound to him, for the purpoſe of learning his trade, and you may depend on it, the premium which was paid with you, would have been kept back, had your parents or guardians thought your maſter not capable of giving you ſufficient inſtruction.

It is very provoking to a maſter, having told his apprentice how to go about any thing in a particular manner, to ſee him inſtantly do it, contrary to his order.

If you would not incur the diſpleaſure of your maſter, mind his advice till you are out of your time, and then you will ſtand in no need of further inſtructions, and will feel the good effects of having ſerved your time with credit and honour.

EXTORTION.

EXTORTION.

TO extort, naturally may be thought to ſignify, to obtain money by threats; but it may be ſaid of apprentices, or other aſſiſtants, in a ſhop, that they extort money, when they aſk more for an article than is is worth, becauſe they have an opportunity. Shame on ſuch doings, and a ſpeedy amendment in all ſuch as have ever been guilty of ſo ſcandalous a practice.

When a perſon ſends an order, it frequently happens, the money is likewiſe ſent by the ſervant, who is ordered to

to pay the bill: it is the greateſt extortion then, to make a greater charge than uſual, merely becauſe you can ſatisfy yourſelf, without the complaint of the buyer; however, be aſſured it will terminate to your great diſcredit, and you cannot expect the return of the cuſtomer, as you may be ſure your conduct will be told without the leaſt reſerve.

FAIR DEALING.

WHAT I mean to recommend hear, is an open manner of tranſacting buſineſs, both in buying and ſelling; as thus, a man may come with a cargo of goods of different kinds, carefully concealed from the public eye, (you

are to conjecture whether they may be ſmuggled, ſtolen, &c.) he offers them conſiderably under the market price, and apparently to your very great advantage; refuſe them, whatever temptations may appear in their favour. If they are ſmuggled, you may be brought into a ſcrape; if they are ſtolen, your character may be called in queſtion; and when once an unfavourable opinion is formed of a man's character in the eye of the world, 'twill be very hard, or next to an impoſſibility, entirely to efface it.

FAMILIA-

FAMILIARITY.

IN an apprentice this is frequently a very great failing. A cuſtomer may like civility, and admire attention, but familiarity, without a previous intimacy, diſguſts them. They think you officious, and intermeddling, and thoſe are titles, every one poſſeſſed of common ſenſe, or feeling, would wiſh to avoid. A cuſtomer, perhaps, may aſk you a queſtion, you are at liberty then to anſwer it to the beſt of your knowledge, but it ſhould even then be done in as few words as poſſible; and you are not to think, becauſe they

aſked one queſtion, that they meant to invite you to a confidential familiarity.

FIDELITY.

HERE you have an opportunity of manifeſting your regard for your maſter.

Whatever is committed to your care, be careful it is delivered by you, in as good condition, and in the ſame quantity, (or an account of its ſale) as it was when you received it. In money matters you cannot be too cautious; if you are to ſuperintend them, be ſure you

you receive from the porter, the money for every parcel of goods he carries out, (not paid before) or the change you gave him, provided the cuſtomer did not pay.

You may perhaps be ſtruck at my doubting your intentions were to do as I have ſaid, before you peruſed this, I will further explain:

There may be a time when you may be in want of a trifling ſum to pay for a purchaſe you made, without conſidering the value of it exceeded your purſe; I would, in ſuch caſe, ſtrictly caution you from borrowing from your maſter's money, whatever may be your intent, or howſoever ſoon you may mean to return it. Though you may ſhudder at the thought of a theft, you

know not how ſoon you may be tempted to a deed, you once abhorred above all others. The ſafeſt way is, to avoid that extravagance, which is the cauſe of your wanting to borrow; and by a ſteady and inviolable regard to fidelity, ſerve your time in favour and confidence with your maſter, who by this amiable and laudable, though juſt quality, may the ſooner be perſuaded to take you as a partner.

FORBEARANCE.

THIS quality is very uſeful to young people; it ſignifies ſuch a tranquillity of temper, that its poſſeſſor has the power

power to hear with patience all that may be alledged againſt him, (though perhaps unjuſtly) and can make a defence with coolneſs, and propriety.

It is childiſh to be out of temper at every trivial occurrence, and never fails to prejudice a by-ſtander againſt you. If you are taxed with a fault, hear your accuſer with a cool ſteady countenance, and if you are innocent, a ſlow and conciſe method of delivery, will effectually exculpate you from all appearance of guilt.

The following tale, though not entirely applicable, is certainly not ill-placed:

Colin had, by unremitting attention, increaſed his ſtock of ſilk worms,

to an aſtoniſhing number. He took the greateſt delight in feeding them, during his leiſure time, and found his endeavours to keep them in good condition, crowned with the ſucceſs they merited, for there never were a finer collection of young ſilk worms. They were yet ſmall, but thriving amazingly, and it being early in the year, he boaſted not a little of his charge. An infant ſiſter of four years old, often took great delight to ſee him fed them, and would now and then venture to touch them, but with the greateſt caution; and as ſhe knew the time at which he regularly fed them, ſhe uſed always to be there before him.

It ſo happened, he was delayed one morning by buſineſs, longer than uſual, and all lighter affairs ſhould give way

to

to buſineſs) and his ſiſter had waited till ſhe was heartily tired, when by a ſudden touch of one of the papers, ſhe threw it down, and killed twenty or thirty of the little creatures. Her cries at the accident, ſoon brought her brother. Inſtead of beating her, or thinking of the loſs, he endeavoured to allay her diſtreſs, by telling her ſhe had done no miſchief, and aſſuring her he had ſtill ſufficient remaining.

He related the affair to a companion, the next day, whoſe reply was, "why did not you knock the little wretch down?" "would that have replaced my ſilk-worms?" replied Colin, "no, it would only have added to my diſtreſs!"

GAMING.

O My friends! ſhun this deteſtable and pernicious vice! avoid it as you would deſtruction. Many an honeſt induſtrious young man of reſpectable parents, by having once ſubmitted to the allurements of a gaming table, has loſt what is far dearer to him than money, his character; and alas! his honeſty.

How would a parent's heart bleed, to know (while yet their child is young) that ſuch would be his fate!

We

We receive many years good advice, from affectionate parents, and how often do we let the advice of a day, (nay of an hour) from a diſſipated aſſociate, corrupt the good foundation they laid with ſo much care and tender ſolicitude!

A young perſon may ſay, "I will go to-night, and indulge myſelf with an hour's game at cards, with my favourite three companions, and I will allow myſelf half a crown to play away, and when that is loſt, then I will depart."

He goes, fixed in the reſolution, and relying on his own power to avoid temptation. The half crown, by an unlucky turn of fortune, is gone in half the time he had allowed for his

ſtay

ſtay from home; he gets up and prepares for his departure; the reſt riſe,—they entreat,—they beg,—they propoſe to play upon honour; their entreaties prevail; he ſits down again, and riſes at laſt, in debt, more than he has laid by, the honeſt ſavings perhaps, of a year. What then is the dreadful alternative? he either abſconds, or purloins the caſh, committed to his care.

This little ſketch is not (I am ſorry to ſay) an ideal one; the ſad truth is daily confirmed, but that it may decreaſe in as faſt a proportion, is my earneſt prayer, in which I am ſure, all thoſe who wiſh well to the riſing generation, will join.

GENEROSITY.

TO exert that noble virtue, Generosity, does not interfere with the duty of an apprentice. A generous act is in the power of every one. The poorest man in the kingdom has opportunities to be generous, as frequently as the rich. It is not the gift of money which constitutes generosity: the brave youth who risks is life in the defence of any one, attacked by two, or more, is generous in the extreme; because, fear, the common sensation in all cases of unequal combat, is banished

niſhed by the all ſubduing power of generoſity.

But do not think I wiſh to praiſe a frequent repetition of ſuch heroic acts; you may be led away under the idea of bravery, to commit violence which is but the effect of timidity. A bully is the moſt deſpicable of characters, while a real generous perſon, is the moſt noble of mankind.

GEOGRAPHY.

YOU may perhaps wonder at ſeeing this word, but as it is of the greateſt conſequence

conſequence to a tradeſman, I could not forbear mentioning it.

If you are in the grocery, drug, or indeed in any line of buſineſs, I need not tell you, moſt of the commodities you deal in, are imported: conſequentiy you ſhould know the countries, and their ſituations, which produce them, and thereby be enabled to judge of their qualities. Beſides, a deep ſkill in geography, may frequently be of vaſt advantage to you, in time of war, as you may know what countries are likely to loſe the liberty of exportation, and lay in a ſufficient ſtock of the articles likely to be ſcarce.

Never were there ſo many, and ſuch uſeful inſtructive and entertaining methods of attaining this ſcience, as at

the preſent moment.—Embrace then, the opportunity, and let each leiſure minute be devoted to the acquirement of that knowledge, buſineſs puts it out of your power to procure.

GRATITUDE.

THE moſt amiable, indeed the moſt natural of all ſenſations, is Gratitude. It ſhould ſeem impoſſible for a good action ever to be forgotten by the obliged perſon. Nature teaches us to feel the obligations we are under, to thoſe to whom we owe life, how much then are the ob-obligations increaſed by their affectionate

onate care and attention, in endeavouring to bring us up ornaments to ſociety! We ſhould live but to do them ſervice, and to repay as much as in our power lies, the favours we have received, at the time we were in ſuch want of them, and the many anxious moments we have been the cauſe of.

When we read of an ungrateful action, we are ſhocked; but do we feel an abhorrence ſtrong enough to deter us from the ſame crime? ſurely that is the profit we ought to derive from the peruſal, and without a doubt, that is the benefit intended by the compiler.

An apprentice ſhould be unſpeakably grateful to a kind maſter, for the infinite trouble and pains which are taken

taken with him, during the term of his apprenticeſhip, and on every occaſion, try to ſhew his gratitude by deeds, and not by words, which appear more as a deriſion than a return for kindneſs received. He ſhould aſſiſt him as a neighbour; he ſhould ſtill keep his ſecrets, and take not the ſmalleſt advantage of them to his detriment, but where he can, endeavour to repay him, by any recommendation he can make, without being himſelf a looſer. Intereſt bids us look at home, but gratitude will maintain its ground in the combat, and intereſt will in ſome meaſure yield to its perſuaſive arguments, and when they mutually agree, where can more true honour be exemplified?

Clinton

Clinton was the next door neighbour of the gay Sir John Morton; in great diſtreſs for a ſmall ſum which he had been diſappointed of, he applied to his landlord (for ſuch Sir John was) for the loan of it. Sir John refuſed him with anger. His lovely daughter Louiſa, heard the poor man's requeſt, which was delivered in ſuch modeſt, reſpectful terms, and with ſuch aſſurances of reſtitution, her gentle heart could not refuſe ſuch a reciprocal gratification. He received the ſum, bleſſing his benefactreſs, and praying Heaven to put it in his power to reward her ten fold.

How little do we know what a day may bring forth! The very next evening after the generous action, as Clinton was returning to his little

hut, after his daily labour, he heard the cry of "Fire;" ever ready to ſuccour the diſtreſſed, even at the greateſt hazard, he ruſhed to the relief of the ſufferers. He ſaw Sir John Morton's houſe in flames. Forgetful of his own cottage, and knowing the ſcarcity of water, (being in the country) he thought but how to be of ſervice to his landlord. He ſaw the ſweet Louiſa at the window, imploring protection; he was diſtracted; he flew for a ladder, and at the hazard of his life, reſtored his amiable benefactreſs to her diſconſolate father.

Sir John ſtared at him, and aſhamed of his former conduct, put into his hand, a ten pound note; he could not be perſuaded to take it, till accompanied by one from Louiſa, who

thurſt them into his pocket, and declared ſhe would not accept of them again.

Clinton returned thanks to Heaven, for making him the inſtrument of Louiſa's protection, and filling his heart with the divine ſenſations of Gratitude.

HASTE.

YOU may perhaps imagine, that Haſte, bears too great a reſemblance to Expedition, to need a ſeparate place; on the contrary, let me aſſure you, haſte may delay expedition. A haſty

perſon is by no means a deſirable character; he ſpeaks without reflection, is eaſily put in a paſſion, without even knowing the cauſe, and never performs right, what he undertakes to do, from a hurrying method of going about it.

People often ſay, "make haſte," they only ought to ſay this to young folks, whoſe good ſenſe can direct them, they ſhould not ſay ſo to a perſon of a haſty character, as the project would be inſtantly defeated.—It is a true ſaying, "more haſte, worſe ſpeed."

HOLYDAYS.

I Come now to ſpeak of what is termed the "Apprentice's privilege," which is a week, fortnight, or more, at the expiration of half their time, and to which they look forward with great joy. Silly young men, how much better might you ſpend the time beſtowed on you, for that occaſion, at different periods of a couple of days, inſtead of running the chance of mixing with bad company, who will ruin what three years and a half have been labouring to effect! An indulgent maſter will never deny you a holyday

at any time, if you do your duty whilſt in his buſineſs, but do you imagine he would grant it, did he known he led you to your ruin? yet no otherwiſe can I term one day ſpent in the company of vicious affociates; how much more then muſt three weeks tend to decreaſe that goodneſs you were ſo remarked for before.

HONESTY.

THERE are various ways of gaining, which, though they do not abſolutely amount to diſhoneſty, draw ſo near it, as frequently to lead their employer

employer beyond the verge of rectitude.

What ſhame muſt it bring on a youth, who, after having gained the confidence of his maſter, is convicted of diſhoneſty! Never can the character he once poſſeſſed, be retrieved; his acquaintance will ſhun him, and thoſe who were once his friends, nay, his relations, will deſpiſe him as a dangerous character; proteſtations will be in vain, his word will not be depended upon.

If you did but know how far ſuperior is the dry bread, obtained by induſtry, to the luxury, obtained by fraud and deceit, you would not envy thoſe in a higher lot, than that in which Providence has placed you.

HONOUR.

A Man may have the moſt noble idea of Honour, without wearing a ſword, or being forced to obey the call of every flippant bullying challenger. Perhaps, till now, ſome young men never thought ſo, and it may be, even now, they differ with me in opinion, for a ſoldier, or any one, either in the army or navy, to be deſerving the name of coward, or (whether they deſerve it or not) to receive that opprobrious title with patience, would be to forfeit all claim to military honour; but for one apprentice to

to call out another, becauſe of a diſpute on any trivial occaſion, which might have been ſettled in the ſame inſtant in which it broke out, is truly ridiculous, nay ſhameful, and ſhould be puniſhed with rigour.

I hope to convince many of my readers of the folly, too prevalent at this period, by the following laughable deſcription of a duel.

Two apprentices had quarrelled, and were determined piſtols ſhould decide the difference. Nothing would ſerve their turn, but *honourable* ſatisfaction. Seconds were provided, who in vain attempted to bring them to a ſenſe of their error.

The day was appointed, and the parties met, both nearly frightened to death, yet dared not then confeſs it, as being too late, for their ſeconds were continually encouraging them, and teaching them the beſt methods of taking aim. They toſſed up for the firſt fire, and he who gained it, fired inſtantly; the other feeling ſomething trickling down his face, and believing it to be blood, as they ſtood but at four paces diſtance, returned the fire, and both dropt their piſtols, crying out, they were dead men. Their ſeconds inſtead of running to their aſſiſtance, could hardly contain themſelves for laughter, and when their fright abated a little, at not feeling any real pain, they confeſſed they had played them a trick, with an intent to cure them of fighting duels, and that they had

had loaded the piſtols with *red currant jelly*, previous to their departure.

IGNORANCE.

IT is the lot of ſome young men, born rather low in the world, (or at leaſt what is termed ſo) by the generous help of a humane friend, to obtain an apprenticeſhip.—To theſe I addreſs myſelf.

As you cannot be expected to have received ſo good an education, as thoſe whoſe parents were ranked in a higher claſs than your's, it is natural to ſuppoſe you are unacquainted with the various

various inſtructive beauties of the principal authors.

You may be as honeſt, induſtrious, and careful, as your ſuperiors, nay, perhaps more ſo, but I would recommend the moſt ſteady application to reading, in ſuch leiſure moments as you can gain, without interfering with your buſineſs. Half an hour every morning earlier riſing, will permit you ſoon to gain conſiderable inſtruction, provided you ſelect the beſt authors; and the ſame time after ſupper, will greatly add to your benefit.

By this means you may in time nearly overtake your aſſociates in the path of learning.

IMPERTI-

IMPERTINENCE.

THERE are many who think a ſharp anſwer extremely clever, indeed they will frequently be commended for it, by their companions, but remember, that is, while they are in ſight, for as ſoon as they are departed, or their backs are turned, they are the firſt to exclaim againſt ill-timed impertinence. There are no doubt many opportunities for ſuch anſwers, but is it ſo trifling a thing to gain the character of an impertinent fellow? Thoſe who approve you for it, are your enemies, and your friends avoid you, leſt you

you make them the victims of your wit.

Let every ſentence you utter, be of ſome uſe, conſider the ſervice it will be of, before you ſpeak it; if you do this, impertinence will never intrude, and your refined manner of expreſſion, will be admired, and copied.

IMPETUOSITY.

LET no provocation ſo move you, as to diſturb that ſerenity you ſhould ever be in poſſeſſion of. For a trifling accident or diſpute, to put you in agitation for the reſt of the day, ſo that each

each perſon feels the ſad effects of it, ſhould they but offer to ſpeak to you, is giving it that dominion over you, which, in your ſober moments, you would bluſh to think any thing had power to uſurp.

In your arguments uſe coolneſs, and an undiſturbed countenance; they are the ableſt aſſiſtants, for if once ruffled at an unlucky word, how hard is it to regain tranquillity.

Impetuoſity may lead you into dangers you never thought of, into dilemmas you are but little prepared to encounter; how will you then repent that violence of temper, which hurried you beyond the bounds of reaſon, and made you forget that duty, you owe to your ſuperiors, and that you were

for

for a time ſubſervient, therefore bound to receive admonition and reproof, if neceſſary.

INDENTURES.

LET not the ſtrongeſt perſuaſions tempt you to break through the rules preſcribed in your indentures. Make it the utmoſt ambition of your heart, to be able, at the expiration of your time to read them, and to ſay, "All theſe rules have I faithfully obſerved," with the moſt delightful ſenſations of joy, inſtead of a conſcience ſtinging you with remorſe, for having violated them. Regard them as ſacred as commandments, from the time you have them in

in poſſeſſion, and defy the art of bad company, to lead you aſtray from the practical part of them.

When you take a review of your duty, as an apprentice, let them be your guides, and follow their precepts as unerring inſtructors.

INDULGENCE.

IT is a very common thing for apprentices in the mechanical line, to claim a day's indulgence, which, if they have behaved well, their maſter is willing to grant. Alas! my friends, ye know not what ye claim! What

you call indulgence, often ends in diſtreſs. Should you not have the power to reſiſt the ſolicitations of noiſy and riotous companions, you know not where you may be led. Drinking, revelling, and indecorous amuſements, are by turns fixed on. Quarrels enſue;—fighting follows, and in conſequence of that, blood. Bruiſed, and perhaps lame, and diſabled, you are brought home, and rendered uſeleſs for work. Your maſter's diſpleaſure is the next thing you have to combat with, and at laſt, perhaps, his favour is loſt for ever.—And this is the privilege ſo much envied;—this is the day ſo eagerly looked forward to;—this you call indulgence.

Never was an apprentice happier than Frederic, under the care of the good Mr. Claremont; his buſineſs was

eaſy, he roſe cheerful, and laid down contented; he envied not any of his acquaintance, though, perhaps, better ſituated with regard to pleaſure, and relaxation.

He had a couſin, who was bound one year before him, to a wholeſale trader, and whom he made his principal companion; for not having much ſpare time, he thought it beſt to keep free from company, leſt they might tempt him to exceed the rules proper to be obſerved by a young man, in his ſituation. Nevertheleſs, by frequent repetitions of his couſin William's entertainments, (for he never failed to relate them, every viſit) he could not help thinking, a little more indulgence would add extremely to the happineſs he enjoyed, and reſolved now and then to endeavour to obtain

a holyday. William approved of his reſolution, and Eaſter Monday being near at hand, he determined to make that his day, and they agreed, in caſe Mr. Claremont conſented, to meet at the ſame place, well known to both. When Frederic, at ſupper, named his requeſt, his maſter ſtarted;—

" I am not going to deny you," ſaid he, " but I am really very much afraid, by your deſire, you have increaſed your connexions to your diſadvantage, or this ſolicitation would never have proceeded from you, eſpecially for ſuch an improper day. My dear boy, you know not what you have to go through. Innumerable are the ſnares laid to entrap fooliſh youth, on that day, and you may think yourſelf fortunate if you eſcape with but one

one misfortune. You no doubt have made ſome engagement, and your paſt behaviour to me, puts it out of my power to refuſe you; but I would wiſh do it, knowing the dangers you will be expoſed to; however, go; but be cautious were you are led, and take nothing valuable about you."

Frederic thanked him, and now permiſſion was granted, the good advice was thought on no more. The day arrived, and he ran to the place of rendezvous, dreſt entirely in his beſt clothes; he had borrowed a watch chain, which hung from his fob, as he had no watch, and perhaps fortunate was it for him, upon the whole, that he had not, though perhaps the reader may in ſome meaſure think to the contrary, but of that he will be

the beſt judge hereafter. The firſt place to which they journeyed, was Greenwich Park, the rather, becauſe it was cuſtomary, than for the pleaſure they expected; but who could bear to ſay they had never rolled down Greenwich hill? to be ſure, they met many of their acquaintances, but that only contributed to make them repent of their undertaking. Their maſter's chimney ſweepers, brick duſt boys, knife grinders, and travelling tinkers, all intermixed, gave them at once, an idea of the gentility of the place, and for the female ſex, they muſt not hope for a deſcription in theſe pages.

They would willingly have returned home, but the ſhame of a retreat, without one roll, urged them to attempt it.

it. The company ſeeing them dreſſed ſuperior to themſelves, determined to have ſome ſport at their expence, and watching their opportunity when they tumbled, to follow, they were nearly buried alive by the multitude, under which they groaned; this was not the worſt, a yoūng ſharper, who had become enamoured of Frederic's watch chain, made a tug at it, and it came off, without the leaſt reſiſtance. The alarm was inſtantly given, of our youngſter's ſhame, and in leſs than five minutes, the Eaſter hunt, on Epping Foreſt, was not to be held in compariſon with this glorious chaſe. Stones, dirt, and even ſhoes, frequently overtook poor Frederic, in his career, and he has grown ſo weak by a repetition of blows, and by running ſo long without ſtopping, that the conſequences

might have been fatal, had not his purſuers left him, for the recreation they forſook, on his account.

William ſoon found him, (who by the bye, had not entirely eſcaped) and they determined inſtantly to return to town, and to go to ſome entertainment, to make up for the Greenwich diſaſter. Sadler's Wells was the deſtined place. Thither they went, and were proceeding to the pit, when feeling for their money, one ſhilling was all that Frederic could find, and William could muſter but eighteen-pence. It was mortifying to the higheſt degree, to think of fitting in the gallery, but as there was no alternative, they were forced to comply. The company in the gallery not excelling, in any great degree, the ſociety they had

had not long before eſcaped, filled them with apprehenſions for their future ſafety, but however, all paſſed off well, and they came away pretty well contented upon the whole. About half way home they obſerved a crowd, and curioſity overcame prudence ſo compleatly, as to make them ſtop to obſerve the reſult, which was no other than a downright fray. Watchmen being called, they could not retreat unobſerved, and their endeavour ſo to do, having caught the eye of one of them, he very coolly lodged them both in the watch houſe, and what added to their diſtreſs, they were not allowed pen and ink till the next morning, being taken for pick-pockets diſguiſed. In the morning however, they wrote to their reſpective maſters, and explained the whole affair, which was

no

no ſooner read than credited, and they inſtantly came to releaſe them.

When Frederic reached home, Mr. Claremont thus addreſſed him:

" Frederic, did I not prophecy right? did I not aſſure you, you would repent your requeſt, and meet with misfortunes unknown to you before? O, my dear boy, let this day be a warning to you, and do not call that indulgence, which is the ſource of ſuch uneaſineſs to many. I was well aſſured you were wrongfully confined, but it was not poſſible for watchmen to diſtinguiſh at that moment. It will no doubt be a leſſon, which will produce more advantage to you, than any advice could have done; however, I ſhall ſay no more, as it is but one day's

day's loſs of time, and I do not fear your claiming another day's indulgence.

KINDRED.

AN apprentice will naturally have a greater affection for his relations, than for his maſter, but it ſhould never be practiſed to the maſter's detriment. where the alternative is, "the maſter or the relation muſt be obeyed," it is your duty to obey your maſter; but you ſhould endeavour by every means in your power, ſo to accommodate matters with your relation, as to part without enmity. To be at enmity with

with a relation on ſuch an occaſion, muſt ſhock the feelings of a ſenſible youth.

A circumſtance occurred not long ago, which may, perhaps, amuſe, at the ſame time that it ſhews the opinion of a fellow apprentice, in a caſe as mentioned above.

Woodville was bound apprentice to Mr. Middleton, at the age of fifteen, he had ſerved him with the ſtricteſt fidelity for three years, and had received every teſtimony of his maſter's confidence and regard, who now gave him the care of all his accounts, and he regularly delivered the money by weekly payments. He would often boaſt of his maſter's favour when at home with his father, who, alas! had not

not been educated in that ſteady regard to the principles of honour, which his ſon had imbibed at ſo early an age. He had more than once ſounded him upon the ſcore of fidelity, but he found by his anſwers, he was not to be led away to diſhoneſty. At laſt, however, having occaſion for money, he premptorily demanded five guineas, from his ſon, on the ſecond day of the week; Woodville ſtood amazed; his father perſiſted in his demands, and ſwore he would have it the next day. Woodville, by economy, had ſaved three guineas, from his pocket money, and preſents, he had received from his friends. He would have died, rather than have deceived his maſter. The next day came, and he put into his father's hand, three guineas, who inſiſted

ſiſted on having the other two, the day following. Woodville knew not what to do; however, when his father came, he flatly denied him. His father threatened to lay before his maſter the former act of diſhoneſty, but this did not ſhake the integrity of Woodville, who was conſcious of his innocence. His father then demanded to ſpeak with Mr. Middleton, and in the moſt aggravating manner, expoſed the vile action, as he termed it, and concluded with ſaying, he only did it, to try his ſon's honeſty. Mr. Middleton would not hearken to him; he called for his books, "Let me not," ſaid he, "believe him guilty, till I am an eye witneſs to the deficiency."

Woodville

Woodville brought the books, and ſeemed anxious to prevent a diſcovery, which his father imputed to a ſenſe of his guilt, but which in reality was no more, than the fear of being made to confeſs how nobly he had behaved, and thereby retorting the ſhame upon him. Mr. Middleton, with an undiſturbed ſerenity, examined the accounts, and demanded the caſh in hand. Woodville delivered it, and every thing was right to a farthing. His father ſwore he received the money, and Mr. Middleton declared the accounts were accurate.

" Tell me, my dear boy," ſaid he, affectionately, " how this affair came to paſs, I am convinced of your innocence."

Woodville then with tears in his eyes, was forced to confeſs, the money his father received, was from his own private pocket. What pleaſure for ſuch a maſter! and what ſhame for ſuch a father! Stung with compunction at his cruelty, he entreated pardon of them both, which was ſoon granted by the affectionate ſon, and after a long lecture of advice by the maſter, who concluded with ſetting the ſon, as an example for the remainder of the father's life.

LABOUR.

IT is a great failing in ſome apprentices, to complain of the labourous taſks they have to perform; in the mechanical line, one out of ten, perhaps, may complain with reaſon, but then they ought all to conſider, their maſters have undergone the ſame taſk, they ſo much grumble at, and that they will hereafter reap the fruits of their labour, by the knowledge they will gain in the art of their buſineſs: Beſides, the more work they have to do, they ſhould be the more thankful, as

 they

they will riſe the ſooner to promotion, and outſtrip idle competitors.

An apprentice who circumſpectly conſiders the motive for which he was bound, if he has his ſhare of common ſenſe, will ſubmit with pleaſure to the commands of his maſter.

There never was a better maſter for young people than Mr Goodwin. Two young men were bound to him on the ſame day, the one, ſon to a man rather in low circumſtances, whom we will call Stanton; the other, ſon to a rich man, whoſe name was Clarkſon The advice given by theſe parents to their reſpective ſons, was as different as it was poſſible to be; Stanton entreated his ſon to ſpare no pains to make himſelf of uſe to his maſter, and

and never to be diſmayed at any apparent difficulty, but to do his utmoſt endeavour to accompliſh it, and yield the taſk with reluctance to any other perſon. Mr. Clarkſon deſired the maſter would never permit his ſon to be ſeen carrying a parcel in the ſtreet, and beſought him to be cautious how he made him try his ſtrength, as his conſtitution was not equal to hard work. On theſe conditions, you may be ſure, Mr. Goodwin never would have taken him, had it not been for fear of offending his father, to whom he was under great obligations.

For the firſt year, how different did theſe two young men employ their time! Stanton worked from morning till night, at the moſt labourous part of the buſineſs. Clarkſon, who

in reality, by far the ſtrongeſt, would attempt nothing, but what appeared remarkably eaſy to perform. He had not the leaſt idea of expedition, if an order required particular diſpatch, but would only condeſcend to look on, and had no objection to make out the bills. A very large order for exportation was received, and the limits for its being prepared were ſo very ſhort, that Mr Goodwin deſpaired of accompliſhing it. Stanton ſaid, he thought, with the addition of two hours early riſing, and the ſame time added to the evening, for three days, they ſhould certainly compleat it. Clarkſon was for ſwearing at thoſe who gave the order, and wiſhed Mr. Goodwin to decline it, which however he refuſed to do, and they immediately prepared to begin it. Stanton worked indefatigably,

defatigably, and gained the greateſt credit from his maſter, (for the order was finiſhed in the limited time) while Clarkſon would not exert himſelf in the ſmalleſt degree, but laughed at him for fagging, as he termed it.

At the expiration of their time, Clarkſon departed with a reſolution to forget buſineſs, and live like a gentleman. Stanton continued to work with his maſter, in the decline of whoſe life, he married his daughter, and obtained the whole of the buſineſs. His aſſiduity and civility ſoon increaſed his trade to double what it was before, and he was reſpected by the whole neighbourhood.

Clarkſon began his career, and was in the high "road to ruin," when

by a ſudden change in his affairs, he learnt, it would be impoſſible for him to live on, at the rate he had begun; indeed it was not long before his father told him flatly, he muſt look out for a ſituation, as he could not ſupport an idle young man.

This was not reliſhed by the party concerned, but he knew however, he could not alter his father's determination, and he opened a ſmall ſhop, in the ſame line of buſineſs as Mr. Goodwin. Here, not being a competent judge of the trade, and conſequently neglecting to ſuperintend things himſelf, he ſoon found he ſhould not ſucceed, ſo gave up his ſcheme, and was forced to look out for a journeyman's place, to his very great mortification.

He

He frequently had ſenſe enough to caſt a look back on his former conduct, and wiſhed he had made Stanton his guide and example. He often blamed his father for his foo'iſh inſtructions to Mr. Goodwin, and blamed himſelf for having followed them ſo ſtrictly.

It happened Mr. Stanton was in want of a ſhopman, when he obſerved Clarkſon paſs by, very ſhabbily dreſſed; he went out, and deſired him to walk in, and having heard his miſerable tale, generouſly hired him from that minute.

Thus, the very youth, who at one time would ſcarce deign to aſſociate with him, was glad to be hired as his vant.

We cannot be too careful of our demeanour in early life, as we cannot tell to whom we may be glad to apply for ſuccour, when misfortune overtakes us.

LAUGHTER.

REFRAIN from laughter as much as poſſible behind the counter; nothing ſhews idleneſs ſo much as a vacant laugh, ready at every ſally of low wit; beſides, you hazard affronting your maſter's cuſtomers, and that in the groſſeſt manner, as they will naturally think you are laughing at them; and with no ſmall reaſon, if you burſt into

into laughter while they are in your maſter's ſhop. Mirth is very well, at proper periods: I would have no young man incapable of joining a harmleſs laugh; when feſtivity is univerſally reigning, it is ridiculous then to be grave and formal. Never laugh if you overhear by chance, any comic relation, told in a whiſper to another perſon, it is the height of ill manners.

LAZYNESS.

A Perſon of this diſpoſition, is a character by no means worthy being connected with, except through the hope of working a reform.

A lazy

A lazy apprentice is a very ſhocking thing indeed; as it is impoſſible to have the ſmalleſt claim to your maſter's favour, without endeavouring to merit it by activity and cheerfulneſs, and lazy people are for the moſt part, dull and ſtupid. Nothing irritates an active induſtrious maſter ſo much, as ſeeing his apprentice ſlow to imitate him. He ſets him the beſt of examples, teaching him to expedite buſineſs, in a comfortable way to himſelf, by always beginning rather ſooner than later, to ſet about any particular thing that needs being done. Such a maſter deſerves not an indolent apprentice, and I muſt ſay, an apprentice determined to be indolent, deſerves not ſo good a maſter.

LIBERTY.

LIBERTY.

WHAT has already been ſaid concerning holydays and indulgence, will ſcarcely ſuffice, without much further enlarging on the word in queſtion. An apprentice ſays, perhaps, "in one year," (or whatever time it may be) "I ſhall regain my liberty!" Liberty, to do what? Have you then been in bondage? Is learning a reſpectable means of livelihood, ſlavery! You would have liberty! liberty to roam the ſtreet, and by the aſſiſtance of bad companions, pull down that noble fabric, ſeven years induſtry and care has raiſed almoſt to perfection.

LOSS.

LOSS.

WHEN you by overſight, or any other neglect, loſe a trifling ſum, it affects you, as being the cauſe, but are you in the ſame manner affected, at the thought, that a cuſtomer has left your maſter's ſhop, on account of your behaviour.

MANNERS.

UNDER this denomination, little need be ſaid, as I intend to treat on the word, "Politeneſs," in a more copious manner. When a cuſtomer departs from your maſter's ſhop, be their condition what it may, never omit your thanks for their favours. Never receive an order with your hat on, that privilege is confined to your maſter only, and even he, will take it off, at the entrance of a cuſtomer, if he is a man of ſenſe and good breeding.

MESSAGE.

MESSAGE.

WHEN you are ſent of an errant, let not the greateſt crowd, or buſtle in the ſtreet, tempt you to join them, they ſhould rather be the cauſe of your haſte, to avoid them, as if you have a parcel in your hand, you may loſe it, or if not, you have the chance of being knocked down, and ſo paying dear for your curioſity.

It is not for apprentices to join in frays, in which they are not concerned, they delay their maſter's affairs, and perhaps come away with a ſhare of bruiſes,

bruiſes, which may diſable them from aſſiſting in their buſineſs for ſeveral days.

Theſe cautions may be called trifling, trifling as they are, if they were more minded, pick-pockets would have little to do, and conſequently be obliged to change their profeſſion.

MEASURES.

FROM the moment you become an apprentice, make it your conſtant buſineſs, to give due meaſure of every article you ſell. It would reflect the greateſt ſhame on your maſter's character,

racter, to have it publicly declared, an article was bought at his ſhop, ſhort of meaſure, his reputation would be ruined, and all through your means; could you reflect on that, without ſhuddering at the miſchief you had been the occaſion of? My friends, beware the fooliſh idea that every inch ſhort of meaſure, is an additional profit, it is a loſs, in a greater proportion than ever can be regained. Equity ſhould be the attraction to your ſhop. and if you make that your conſtant aſſiſtant, you may ſecurely confide in its never failing power.

MISCHANCE.

ACCIDENTS are common to every one; the moſt careful are ſometimes liable to them; but let us conſider how we ought to behave when an accident has happened through our means. Not by a thouſand various pretences, endeavour to excuſe ourſelves from having committed it. Not by laying the blame on an innocent perſon, endeavour to exculpate ourſelves; nor ſhould we delay to mention it, but openly and ingenuouſly confeſs the miſchance, and promiſe to be more careful in future.

There is more pleaſure derived from hearing an acknowledgement of this kind, than if the accident had not happened. This I mûſt beg leave to illuſtrate, by the following little narrative.

Herbert and Theodore were the ſons of Mr. Vincent, he had ſpared neither trouble nor expence in their education, which enabled them, at a much earlier period than is generally approved of, to mix with the world, I mean, to be allowed to join in converſation with the company their father kept, which was numerous.

From infancy, Theodore had been regarded by his father, as a lad, far leſs worthy the pains he had taken with him, than his brother; as he was more

more reſerved, and melancholy was continually painted on his countenance, while that of Herbert, was ever brightened by the ſmile of joy. But by this becoming ſprightlineſs, he had acquired a careleſsneſs of action, which often times amounted to deceit: as thus, if he had been accidentally guilty of a miſdemeanor, he would by every means in his power, try to hide it, and cared not on whom the blame fell, ſo as he was exculpated.

One day, as theſe brothers were alone, in their father's ſtudy, Theodore, with an uncommon vivacity, (which he never attempted to exert, but in the abſence of Mr. Vincent,) drew out the globes, and in a formal pedantic manner, was ridiculing the manner of teaching the uſe of them;

by a ſudden jerk in turning it round, he broke a very eſſential part, ſo as to render it unſerviceable (with regard to motion) in future. Every ray of pleaſure was at once baniſhed from his cheek, and was ſucceeded by the gloom of deſpair.

Herbert with an ill-timed affection, adviſed him to put it in its place, and when it was diſcovered, to affect great ſurpriſe at the accident; but no! Theodore was inflexible, and Mr. Vincent ſoon after entered the room. The youth boldly walked up to him, and affectionately ſqueezing his hand, confeſſed the whole affair, with a modeſt eloquence, his father never thought him capable of; "and will you, ſir, forgive me?" exclaimed he.

"Forgive

" Forgive thee!" replied Mr. Vincent, " let me embrace thee, a thouſand times more dear to me than ever."

Herbert ſympathized in their joy, and Mr. Vincent declared, he at that moment, poſſeſſed the ampleſt happineſs he ever enjoyed.

MONEY.

WHILE you are an apprentice, make not money too much your care; you may commence your time with the firmeſt reſolutions of honeſty and integrity, but you know not the various artifices you will have to ſurmount,

from the infinuations of evil company, and you will be the leſs able to withſtand them, if money be your ſole purſuit. You will perhaps at firſt, borrow from the till,* and indeed may regularly pay, for ſome time, but by degrees you may be brought to an act, your gentle nature would have ſhuddered to reflect on, in your early days.

NEIGHBOUR.

BE friendly to your neighbours, at all times, but eſpecially in their need, be not ſlow to aſſiſt them. Beſides, the

* See the tale, Conſcience.

the ſacred commands you have received, you are bound by ſelf-intereſt to obey. You ſhould reflect, that you are as liable to misfortunes, as they are, and unleſs you "do unto them, as you would they ſhould do unto you," you cannot expect their aſſiſtance. Your houſe may be on fire, your ſhop may be broke open, and various other ills may befall you, in which caſe, you would be glad of a neighbour's help. Study then, to deſerve it, and by making yourſelf acceptable to them in their diſtreſs, ſecure their aid when you may be in want of it.

NEATNESS.

A Decent neatneſs ſhould be obſerved in a young apprentice, as it will improve to a regular attention of the perſon, under proper reſtrictions. For a cuſtomer to be waited on with unclean hands, or uncombed hair, betrays a negligence, which inſtantly prejudices him againſt you; on the contrary, too much attention is abſurd, and ſuperfluous. To wait upon a perſon with your hair full dreſſed, or in your very beſt cloaths, denotes a pride, very unbecoming a young tradeſman,

man, and is generally rewarded by reproof.

Neatneſs ſhould be attended to, in putting things relative to buſineſs in their proper places; but as I have mentioned this before, I ſhall conclude, with referring you to Cuſtoms, and Cleanlineſs.

NOBLENESS.

THIS quality is not confined to people of high birth alone; a nobleneſs of ſpirit ought to belong to every youth, which if kept apart from pride, will improve to their advantage.

Never

Never be guilty of a mean action, though it ſhould be much to your profit, it will be the foundation of others, which will lead you aſtray from integrity's path. There is nothing more noble than to forgive an injury, or to revenge it, by returning good for evil. When an injury has been received, think how you can behave to the offender, ſo as to impreſs him with a ſenſe of his ungenerous conduct, and then conſider,

"To err is human, to forgive divine."

I muſt here beg the aſſiſtance of a little tale, for the better illuſtration of this quality.

Cordelio was the ſon of a peaſant, who, though uſed to hard labour, and almoſt

almoſt conſtantly employed, had, with the aſſiſtance of the worthy clergyman of the pariſh, taught him ideas, far ſuperior to his ſituation.

Cordelio was not proud, yet there was a certain diſdain of the common amuſements of poor children marked in his face, which gained him no credit among his youthful neighbours.

Not far from their cottage, lived the lord of the manor, whoſe only ſon, Frank, was as far inferior to Cordelio in knowledge and generoſity, as he was ſuperior in perſon and addreſs. It was his delight to plague this poor boy, knowing (what *he* termed) his pride, and he never paſt him, without expoſing him to the ridicule of the neighbouring children.

One

One day, a favourite terrier, belonging to Cordelio, came in the way of Mr. Frank, as he took his morning's ride, with his ſervant, deaf to the cries of the animal, (as it occaſioned a new diſtreſs to his innocent enemy) he cut of its tail, and then tied its legs together, riding off with an air of exultation. Cordelio juſt appeared time enough to ſee who had treated his little favourite ſo unmercifully; in the firſt moment of paſſion, he vowed revenge, but as he grew cool, he thought, to mortify his foe, would be far more gratifying. An opportunity was not long ſought for; the very next evening, as Frank was returning home, in riding very quick by the cottage gate, his horſe ſtarted, and threw him into a vaſt quantity of mud, which had been

been thrown aſide for the convenience of foot paſſengers.

Cordelio was ſtanding by, ſaw the accident, and ran to his aſſiſtance, he entreated him to enter the cottage, and offered (what a cutting ſtroke to his pride!) a ſuit of his own cloaths, while the dirty ones were cleaned, or at leaſt till he got home.

Highly mortified, he accepted them; there was no alternative, however, he had the generoſity to offer money.

"No!" cried Cordelio, "you owe me nothing, you owe to that poor cur, far more than you will ever be able to pay; I ſhall receive nothing from you but my cloaths; which I ſhall

ſhall be glad of as ſoon as poſſible, as they are my beſt."

Frank walked away in tears, and with the aſſiſtance of the ſervant, reached home ſooner than they expeced, for the mockery and laughter of the children who followed him, was hardly to be equalled, ſuch was their joy at his diſtreſs.

OATHS.

AS you would ſhun your greateſt enemy, avoid an oath. Beſides being the height of all ill manners, (though many erroneouſly think to the con-

trary,) it is the prelude to wickedneſs. An oath from the mouth of a young man, ſtrikes horror into every bye-ſtander, and they ſigh for pity, that ſo fair a ſtalk, ſhould bear ſuch poiſonous bloſſoms. Oaths, cu ſing, theft, and ſeveral others, are all of the ſame family. The perſon who is once familiar to one, will ſoon become acquained with the whole banditti; a dreadful banditti! Let not even an exclamation eſcape you, it may tempt you to an aſſeveration, and do not accuſtom yourſelf to a cant word, it may ſeem genteel, and like other people, but it is no mark of gentility, or good education.

OBEDIENCE.

OBEDIENCE.

BE always ready to obey, when your maſter commands, without murmuring. Let not the advice of an ignorant companion tempt you to diſobey the moſt trifling command you may receive.

There is a very ſtrict obedience due to the parent from the ſon, but that due to the maſter from the apprentice,* ſhould bear the ſway. Until fourteen, you are under the care of kind

* See Kindred.

kind and affectionate parents, and it would be to "war againſt nature," not to pay them the moſt unlimited obedience; but when the reins are delivered into the maſter's hands, your duty of obedience is transferred to him at the ſame time. I do not mean you have then a liberty of diſobeying your parents; but ſhould the maſter and the father, at the ſame time, enjoin a different command, you are to follow your maſter's deſire, and for once, give up the felicity of obedience to a parent.

OBSTINACY.

YOUNG people who practiſe this deteſtable failing, are not aware of the dreadful conſequences attendant on it. Society ſhuns the poſſeſſor of this fatal foe, and flies from the acquaintance of a man, ſo unfit to join in any reciprocal engagement. Poor wretch! he is deſpiſed by every one, avoided by his deareſt connexions, and never ſpoken to without reproach.

There are ſeldom any failings, but which procure a temporary pleaſure to their poſſeſſor; but with this odious

ous vice, what pleaſure can unite? What ſatisfaction can the poſſeſſion of a quality ſo univerſally abhorred, create? To keep a friend in ſuſpenſe, to delay clearing up any diſagreeable embarraſſment, to perſiſt in a wrong method of tranſacting any part of your buſineſs, or to give uneaſineſs where it can be diſpenſed with, ſurely muſt afford ſo little pleaſure in the practice, that any one would imagine, there muſt be ſome very material point in view, to overbalance the uneaſineſs, reciprocally occaſioned.

The effects of obſtinacy are ſtill freſh in my memory, as the following tale, is but an abſtract from a recent occurrence.

Ned Stapleton would have been univerſally beloved, had it not been for his obſtinate diſpoſition, which could never be brought to yield, even to the oldeſt, or ableſt diſputant. He was handſome, lively, and in general good-natured, but theſe qualities were greatly leſſened in value, by that failing above mentioned, which cauſed him to be continually admoniſhed, and reproved by his friends, and neglected by his acquaintance.

When once he had fixed on a reſolution, no arguments, no remonſtrances had power to make him alter it; he could not brook diſappointment, though near twenty years of age.

He

He took it in his head to make one at the Eaſter Hunt, and ſignified his intention two or three days before; his parents were extremely diſtreſſed at his determination, as, having been brought up in town, he had no knowledge in horſemanſhip, and would run a very great riſk of his life. They laid before him the various dangers he was liable to be expoſed to, from the careleſſneſs of others; from the temper of the horſe he would hire; and from the exceeding uneven ground, over which he would ride at full ſpeed. Their advice was uſeleſs, he heard, but he heeded not; and when the day arrived, his horſe was at the door.

He rode to the foreſt, amidſt hundreds of companions, though he did not find one of his acquaintance; but

that did not diſconcert him, as he truſted to his own ſkill, and thought it impoſſible to come to harm.

His heart beat with joy at the ſight of the cart, wherein was the poor deſtined ſtag; but when he beheld it leap from thence, and nearly overthrow a young man on horſeback, he was rather ſtaggered, and more than once probably repented of his expedition; however, he joined the "motley crew," and was for the moſt part the firſt in the chace, though this was owing to the good qualities of the horſe, more than to the dexterity of the rider.

He had not proceeded an hour, when he miſſed one ſtirrup, and his horſe being on the full gallop, he fell with great force, and it was with the

greateſt difficulty the followers were prevented going over him. Several of the crowd paſt within an inch of him, and as he was not ſtunned, though in the greateſt agony, he had time to reflect on his raſh reſolution. he was lifted up, as ſoon as the thickeſt part of the equeſtrians were paſt, and fortunately had not far to be carried, as a public houſe was within a quarter of a mile. Here he was examined by a ſurgeon, whom he begged to ſpeak the worſt that had happened, as he found himſelf in the extremeſt torture; he was then told, that he had broke, and fractured the bone in his leg, and that it was dangerous to remove him.

His family was then ſent for, who came as expeditiouſly as poſſible, re-

proaches at their tongues' end, but when they ſaw his lamentable condition, pity flowed from every breaſt, and reproach gave way to the tender feelings of compaſſion. They never left him, till he was able to be removed, and then accompanied him to town; where, after a tedious confinement, he quitted his bed; but he will have cauſe, for the remainder of his life, to repent of his obſtinacy, as he never can recover the uſe of his leg.

OFFENCE.

TO give offence on purpoſe, is unpardonable; but where offence is not intended, every little affront ſhould be diſregarded. In a ſhop, you are very much expoſed to the power of caprice; there are many cuſtomers who will take offence at a trifle, while others are the better pleaſed to ſee you familiar and free. In any caſe where you have unintentionally offended a cuſtomer, endeavour by every means in your power, to palliate the offence, and aſſure him it was not intended.

This

This is a duty you owe your maſter, and a good apprentice cannot acquit himſelf before the tribunal of his conſcience, unleſs he has ſtrictly practiſed every method he can think of to obtain forgiveneſs of the offended perſon; for ſhould he fail in the attempt, (though it may make him very uneaſy) his conſolation will be, the offence was accidental, and he has done all in his power to atone.

PASSION.

THERE is no greater enemy to an apprentice, than paſſion; it is far beyond anger, as that may be confined in

in the boſom, while the other in general rages in a dreadful degree, and horrible in the metamorphoſis it makes! A man is in an inſtant changed to a brute, while the tremendous enemy ſtill uncontrouled, ranges at large, and many are its innocent victims.

No condition in life can authorize paſſion; a perſon may be provoked, but let not a ſlight chagrin kindle ſo fierce a flame as paſſion, whoſe unlimitted power daily experience ſhews.

PATIENCE.

PATIENCE.

IN every ſituation in life, this moſt amiable virtue, may rank among the firſt, and ſurely it is not difficult to perceive the wonderful ſervice it is of to apprentices. It ſhould be almoſt their chief ſtudy, as doubtleſs they have great need of ſo able an aſſiſtant.

Should a cuſtomer be extremely difficult to pleaſe, ſhould he object to every thing ſhewn him, and toſs the articles about in an ungenteel manner, patience muſt be embraced as the only remedy.

Daily occurrences call for patience, for, live as long as you may, trifles muſt ariſe which try the temper, and which can only be ſubdued by patience. I do not hear mean to recommend cowardice, or mean ſpirit; if you are affronted, act as the occaſion requires, for I do not pretend to aver, patience is the beſt way to revenge an inſult, I only wiſh to convince you, that if we would now and then call patience to our relief, our grievances would not be near ſo many as we think them.

PERSE-

PERSEVERANCE.

DO not give up an apparent difficulty on a firſt trial, it is childiſh beyond expreſſion. Perſeverance, aſſiſted by the foregoing friend, will ſeldom fail to accompliſh the greateſt ſeeming hardſhips. Obſtinacy is by no means allied to perſeverance, they are as different as two oppoſites can be. Obſtinacy I have in ſome meaſure explained; perſeverance is a term for patience in a good cauſe, and deſerving the higheſt marks of eſteem.

An

An apprentice has ſo many different things to learn, that without perſeverance, he could not become uſeful to his maſter, or attain any knowledge of the buſineſs in which he is bound to ſerve his apprenticeſhip. When a maſter is ſo kind as to teach, it is the duty of an apprentice to perſevere in the application, until he has made himſelf maſter of the ſubject in trial, and never let him imagine he can be taught too much, but embrace every opportunity of adding ſomething to his former ſtock of knowledge.

POLITENESS.

YOU may perhaps think civility ſufficient to explain this amiable quality; they are very different. A ſhort definition I ſhould give thus: Apprentices are *civil* in the country, but they are *polite* in town; I mean thoſe who really endeavour to be ſo, for a town education comprehends that ſtudy of politeneſs, which is not deemed of ſuch conſequence in the country, and it is to be lamented, it is not practiſed in proportion to its ſuperiority as an accompliſhment. Various are the little

tle inſtances where politeneſs may prevent a diſagreement. It is ſo far ſuperior to gentility in dreſs, it never fails to obtain the precedence in all companies of well bred, and ſenſible people, who when they hear the polite ſentiments of a clever youth, and obſerve with what reſpectful timidity he addreſſes himſelf to them, regard not his dreſs as an objection to their eſteem.

POOR.

IT is an unfeeling perſon, who can ſerve the poor without that attention, in every reſpect, which is due to the rich. They pay for what they buy,

and always ready money; why then are *they* ſo often affronted, whilſt a lady who is ſtepping into her carriage, is coaxed, and every thing ſhe has ſaid is agreed to, rather than give her the ſlighteſt cauſe for offence? You will ſay, I have recommended this latter behaviour; I have in part, but then it ſhould be practiſed towards every one, the poor not excepted. I would not have the ſame dignity of ſentiment, nor that gentility of behaviour, kept up in their preſence, which is due only to ſuperior rank, (they would think you were mocking them) but I would have them ſerved with the beſt of articles, their price will allow, and the ſame attention paid to the weight or meaſure, as to any body elſe.

They

They have not too many comforts, can you then refuſe them the comfort of being thanked for their cuſtom, and treated with civility?

PRIDE.

AS an apprentice, pride, in its general ſignification, ſhould be unknown to you, but you may frequently take a ſmall ſhare to yourſelf, when you are aſſiduous to inſtruct a younger companion in his duty; that is a proper pride, and very neceſſary as an example to youth; but for an apprentice to be proud, becauſe on a ſunday he dreſſes in a ſuperior ſtile to his aſſoci-

ates, ſhews a childiſh diſpoſition, any one of ſenſe would bluſh to obſerve.

Let your buſineſs be what it will, and your acquaintance in what rank they may, make your trade your care, without regard to the ſilly laughter of thoſe who ridicule you for your attention; they no doubt will in time have cauſe to envy you, while you may riſe to their condition, and by your conduct in an elevated ſphere of life, prove how worthy you were to be thus advanced.

Young Linley was bound apprentice to an oil-man, at the uſual period, driven from the idle ſociety of a genteel acquaintance, to work hard, and learn a reſpectable trade. He had aſſociated with none but ſuperiors, as

his wife parents were of opinion, the fewer acquaintance the better, and even thoſe, ſhould be of a ſuperior education, as the moſt likely to benefit their ſon.

Theſe companions now deſerted him, as an inferior connexion, and never condeſcended to ſpeak to him, but to divert themſelves at his expence, in ridiculing his new way of life. Among theſe, young Beaumont was the moſt forward; he was the ſon of a conſiderable merchant in the city, and valued himſelf upon his dreſs, his money, and the idle way in which he ſpent his time. He would ſometimes call on Linley, and ſtay an hour, merely to try to mortify him, but to no effect. The parents and maſter of this good youth, had not

beſtowed their advice in vain, it had been received with attention, and was ſtrictly followed.

Young Beaumont had not called for a week, and Linley was as much ſurpriſed as rejoiced, at the change, though he could not but imagine ſomething had happened; however, he gave him up as a good riddance, and daily increaſed in his maſter's favour.

By punctuality and fidelity, at the expiration of his time, he was allowed a ſhare in the buſineſs, and having by a reſpectful attention, gained the affection of his maſter's daughter, (an only child) they were married by general conſent.

His

His maſter having by indefatigable induſtry, realized a competent fortune in a few years retired from buſineſs, and left the whole concern to his ſon-in-law.

It was in the third year of his buſineſs, he read in the public papers, of a ſubſcription being ſet on foot, for the relief of a family, in the moſt miſerable ſituation that could be deſcribed. Ever ready to contribute towards the relief of his fellow creatures in diſtreſs, he haſted to the habitation of the poor petitioner.

In a miſerable little room, with ſcarce fire enough to light a candle, the firſt object that met his eye, was the wretched Beaumont, and turning his eyes round the room, he beheld a

young woman and two infants, (his wife and children) crying for food, while fragments of leather lay about the room. The ſight was too much for Linley; he ſprang forward, and raiſed the dejected Beaumont, who had fallen at his feet. His misfortunes had ſo humbled him, he could hardly be brought to look his old aſſociate in the face.

"Beaumont," ſaid the generous Linley, "it grieves me, paſt expreſſion, thus to ſee you; I know not your diſtreſſes, it is enough, you are in need of my aſſiſtance; take this, and hire a reſidence more fit for your wife and family, and when you are ſettled in it, I will lend you money ſufficient to go on with your buſineſs."

He

He then left him, having put into his hand five guineas.

Beaumont the next day, called on his benefactor, and related an account of his misfortunes, which were briefly theſe: From loſſes in merchandize, he had been put five years to a ſhoemaker, being the only ſituation his father could afford to place him in; he had married the ſame year in which he left his maſter, and ſet up a little ſhop, which was ſoon after conſumed, with almoſt every thing he was poſſeſſed of, by a fire which broke out in the night, and which hardly allowed him and his wife, and one child, time to eſcape, and the only ſhelter he could find, was the miſerable ſpot where Linley found him.

By

By the generous donation of his benefactor, he was enabled to continue his trade, and at laſt got into a tolerable good buſineſs, but never did he forget how great an enemy pride had been to him, and his children are brought up to deſpiſe it, and to profit by their father's ſad example.

QUIBBLE.

THIS is almoſt as bad as a direct lie. When you are accuſed of any trifling fault you know you have been guilty of, it is as great wickedneſs to try by an equivocation to excuſe yourſelf from having done it, as to deny it at once; as

as it makes the perſon who accuſes you, ſatisfied you are innocent, and therefore anſwers the ſame purpoſe as a lie. It is a fooliſh method ſome people have, of reſorting to a quibble in every caſe of diſpute; they are dangerous aſſociates, never to be relied on, and I would adviſe all I wiſh well to, to ſhun ſuch companions, for they are ſure to receive no benefit from ſuch connexions.

REGULARITY.

FROM the firſt moment of your apprenticeſhip, acquire a habit of regularity in all your actions; it will make

make trade go on eaſy, without hurry and confuſion; you will always know where your different things are to be found, and ſo ſave yourſelf trouble, and your cuſtomers time. You will likewiſe avoid a natural diſguſt which ariſes from any difficulty, for each day being but a repetition of the former one, your mind will not be over burthened, as the minds of thoſe apprentices are, who let things go juſt as it happens. When you have done with any thing you have taken from its place, leave it not on the counter, to interrupt your fellow aſſiſtants, but let every one clear away what they have laid about, and that will always put an end to diſputes ariſing from the effects of irregularity.

RELIGION.

RELIGION.

WERE I to ſpeak on this awful ſubject, as much as I could wiſh, I ſhould moſt probably enter into a diſcourſe I ſhould be unable to purſue, without the help of a very able aſſiſtant. In moſt trades an apprentice is ſo employed all the week, that no time for reading or contemplation can be found. On Sunday then, we ſhould endeavour to regain loſt time, by attending Divine ſervice, twice, and after a reaſonable walk (for health's ſake) return home to hear, or to read a ſermon or diſcourſe on ſome proper ſubject.

Two

Two thirds of the wickedneſſes daily committed, are the reſult of an early inattention to religion, and I am ſorry to ſay, various are the preſent examples of apprentices, who look forward to Sunday as a day of paſtime and holyday, and if they enter a church but for five minutes, think it is ſufficient, as they can then ſay, they have not neglected Divine worſhip: they have done worſe; they have made a mock of it. Let me ſolemnly remind you, Sunday is the only day in which time is allowed you to think ſeriouſly of religion; and ſhall an opportunity ſo precious be loſt? Shall we refuſe that aſſiſtance we ſo much need? How many do! and yet their misfortunes are not ſufficient examples and cautions againſt a like neglect.

The

The following tale may appear intereſting at the preſent criſis.

Williams was ſeduced from his apprenticeſhip, when he had nearly ſerved half his time, by the artful endeavours of two young ſharpers, who by a hypocritical diſguiſe of their diſpoſitions, firſt became acquainted with him, with an intent of making him their victim, and then their tool in all manner of wickedneſs. He had long withſtood their frequent perſuaſions to run away from his maſter, but had in one unguarded moment, conſented to their plan, which, though lucrative, was enough to fill the mind with horror. To pilfer and pick-pockets, were their vile intentions, and they ſwore to be faithful to each other.

Williams

Williams was ſoon an adept in their deteſtable ſchemes, and various were his crimes, which as yet eſcaped unpuniſhed. It happened that one of his companions was ſeen with his hand in a gentleman's pocket, by one of the conſtables at the door of the theatre. He jerked out a handkerchief, and gave it to his companion, and he whiſpering Williams, they were all three ſecured.

On their examination, Williams was acquitted, with much kind admonition, and the other two were committed for trial, and afterwards tranſported.

Williams was now left to himſelf, with the terror of a guilty conſcience for his companion. How often did he look back with horror, to the firſt day

day that he neglected church, for the ſake of a party of pleaſure with his aſſociates. "That," cried he, in an agony of deſpair, "was my firſt crime, and to what a multitude of others has that led the way!"

He ſtrolled that night to a ſtable-yard, and obtained leave to ſleep there, or rather to lie down, for ſleep is no friend to the guilty. The next morning being Sunday, he wandered to a church, and ſtanding in the middle iſle, faced the preacher. The text was from the 15th chap. of Saint Luke, "There is joy in the preſence of the angels of God, over one ſinner that repenteth!" He liſtened attentively, and heard a moſt excellent ſermon on repentance; he heard how far better it was to repent at the laſt, than

to yield to deſpair. He heard, and he reſolved to attempt the laudable taſk. But to whom was he to apply? He had left his maſter more than a twelvemonth, and dared not return. He was meditating as he came out of the church, when the very maſter he had left, met him, and caught his hand. Words at that moment were uſeleſs, he drew him from the crowd, and thus addreſſed him:

" O, my boy, did you but know what I have ſuffered on your account, you would not have deſerted me ſo long. I plainly ſaw the diſpoſitions of your companions, and you know, often warned you againſt confiding in them. You were all I could deſire, till that acquaintance took place; how could

you then ſuffer yourſelf to be corrupted by bad advice; but you muſt have been a ſufferer as well as myſelf, and to meet you coming out of a church, is a ſign of your repentance, and if you have attended to the ſermon, you will not heſitate a moment in endeavouring to regain your miſpent time."

Williams could not ſpeak; truly penitent tears ſtopped his utterance; his maſter then offered to let him continue the remainder of his time.

" I hope," ſaid he, " one year has not entirely obliterated the good advice you received for three years; —come," continued the good man, " I will give you a trial however, and you may have a chance of regaining

the path of integrity, you ſo fooliſhly went aſtray from."

Williams followed him home, inwardly rejoicing at his good fortune, and bleſſing the day he entered the church, reſolving to act in future worthy ſuch boundleſs generoſity.

RESOLUTIONS.

VARIOUS are the temptations youth are ſubject to, I would therefore recommend to you, to make a few reſolutions, (under proper reſtrictions, and the reſult of mature conſideration) which may hinder you from ſubmitting

ſubmitting to the allurements of bad aſſociates one or two I will propoſe. In whatever company you are, make a reſolution not to exceed two glaſſes of wine, till your time is expired; in general one is polite, but to exceed two, is bordering on ill breeding. Reſolve to follow your maſter's advice when you have once aſked it: be cautious of aſking advice, if you would not wiſh the caſe to be made public, but when your maſter has given you his opinion, abide by it. One more; ſet the example of induſtry to your fellow apprentices, and aſſiſtants, and do not wait for their obedience, but when you are once acquainted by your maſter, what you are to do, let not their perſuaſions have any effect on you, to lead you to idleneſs.

RISING.

NEVER let your maſter be up before you; you ſhould have the ſhop opened, the counter ſwept, and the different things clean and in order, before your maſter makes his appearance. There are ſome maſters who will riſe as early as their apprentices, for the ſake of the example, and a very laudable one it is, for no character is ſo bad as that of a ſluggard, for an apprentice. When you wake, jump out of bed immediately, and do not wait to gape and yawn, and rub your eyes,

eyes, it is the only way to fall aſleep again.

It is a pleaſant ſight to ſee an active apprentice buſy in the morning, preparing for the reception of a cuſtomer, and is always related to his credit

RUDENESS.

LET no provocation from a cuſtomer tempt you to be rude; it is deſcending very low to make uſe of expreſſions conſtantly in the mouths of carmen, and ſcavengers; you would bluſh to think you imitated them in

any action, but here you condescend to use their very mode of expression, which indisputably is their worst failing.

If your master admonishes, take his advice as it is meant, and do not rudely retort, as that will make the first failing double, and hinder it so much longer from being obliterated. It is the greatest pleasure imaginable to a master, parent, or guardian, to hear a mild and pleasant answer to their kind admonitions; it is assuredly the contrary to hear it returned by gross language, and to receive mockery for good advice. It is ungenerous to the highest degree, to suppose your adviser had any motive in view, but your interest.

It is not pleaſing to find fault, but when advice is given from a good motive, it is cruel to ſee it thrown away.

SECRECY.

BEWARE of a breach of truſt; but firſt let me adviſe you to be cautious how you receive ſecrets; they are the moſt *brittle* things in the world; when once a ſecret is *cracked*, all the care in the world will not replace it. It is a very unthankful office to be made a confident, unleſs to a very near friend or relation, but when you have a ſecret entruſted to your care, keep

keep it as you would your tongue; "would you keep a ſecret, keep it yourſelf." A very good maxim, but little minded.

I have a little tale, which ſhews the unhappy effects of betraying a ſecret.

Leander was a lively youth of ſeventeen, had ſerved the greateſt part of his time with very great credit to himſelf and his maſter; a debt of long ſtanding, in the name of Jones, frequently caught his eye, while examining the books, and he reſolved to do his utmoſt to obtain it. He often went, but to no purpoſe, for Mr. Jones would not be ſeen, though he was thought to be in a very extenſive merchantile way. One day, he knocked

knocked at the door, when he knew he was at home, (having ſeen him at the window) and refuſed to depart without ſeeing him, as he had his maſter's orders ſo to do. He was ſhewn into a parlour where he was ſoon joined by Mr. Jones, who entered in ſuch agitation, he could ſcarcely ſpeak; at laſt he thus addreſſed him:

" Young man, I am under the neceſſity of entruſting to you a ſecret, which if known, will at once plunge me into the greateſt diſtreſs: your looks ſpeak you humane, and I am convinced you would not willingly be the ruin of a fellow creature. It is hard for me, who am thought to be in ſuch an elegant ſphere of life, to be forced to addreſs you with this humility, but when you know my ſituation,

you

you will pity me, and I do not doubt, promiſe me an inviolable ſecrecy, as far as your duty to your maſter will permit you. I am thought at this minute to poſſeſs thouſands; I am not maſter of five hundred pounds; all my poſſeſſions laid in thoſe Iſlands, which the French have ſo wantonly diſtroyed. Letters from my agents inform me of my loſſes, and ſoon muſt I devulge the fatal news; I am in hopes, ere long, to receive a temporary ſupply from a worthy brother in the country, which will enable me in ſome meaſure to retain my character, but if my affairs were publicly known, my utmoſt endeavours could not keep my name from the Gazette. Upon the firſt receipt of my money, I will pay your maſter to the laſt farthing, but till then, I muſt entreat your patience.

You

You are doubtleſs aware of the importance of the ſecret, and I hope and truſt you will not abuſe my confidence, though neceſſity drove me to the ſad alternative."

Leander promiſed him he would for once ſo break through his duty to his maſter, as to invent a tale, to be a ſufficient excuſe; he then left him.

Polydore was Leander's boſom friend; a reciprocal confidence had formed a friendſhip, ſtronger perhaps than youth commonly contract. Polydore had obſerved how uncommonly long Leander had ſtayed, and queſtioned him frequently upon the occaſion; he attacked him ſo continually, yet in ſo gentle a manner, Leander could not but reply.

" My

" My friend," ſaid he, " to keep any thing from you, would ſeem the higheſt ingratitude for the unlimited confidence you place in me, but if you knew the reaſon I with-hold one ſecret, (for I muſt confeſs I do) you would forgive me, and declare me right to keep it. The character of a worthy man is at ſtake."

Theſe words increaſed the flame of curioſity inſtead of allaying it; however, they parted for that time, yet from the frequent importunities and reproaches of Polydore, Leander one morning confeſſed it, and laid the whole affair before him, but not till he had made him ſwear the moſt rigid obſervance of ſecreſy.

It was not long after this, Leander was walking up a bye ſtreet, at a very quick pace, and was ſtopped by poor Jones.

" I do not upbraid you with breach of promiſe," ſaid he, " I only leave you to your meditations, on what you have done; I am no longer at liberty than to-day, unleſs I ſatisfy my numerous creditors; my affairs are known, and I muſt either fly the kingdom like a villain, and leave my family to periſh, or yield myſelf up to my voracious enemies, and moſt probably end my days in priſon."

He then ran from him. Leander felt at that moment more than words can deſcribe, to be, as it were, the ruin of a family by one little indiſcretion,

tion, was a reflection he could hardly ſupport. He ſought Polydore, and queſtioned him very cloſely upon the ſubject, and it appeared, that he had divulged it to an uncle, who had told it as a ſecret to a gentleman of his acquaintance, and who happened to be the chief creditor of poor Jones. Leander then told him the miſchief he had done, but it was too late to repent then, and to the lateſt period of their exiſtence, they rued this fatal breech of ſecrecy.

SOBRIETY.

SOBRIETY.

THE dreadful conſequences ariſing from a love of liquor, are daily experienced; yet while we condemn them, we do not always make a reſolution to avoid that enormous failing ourſelves;—but why not? we are entruſted with the care of a reſpectable ſhop, and are anſwerable for any omiſſion or neglect of any part of the buſineſs: ſhall we then, for a temporary pleaſure, riſk the truſt repoſed in us? Drunkenneſs is the key to all crimes, as we know not what we do, or what we agree to, while in that ſtate. I

have ſometimes heard an apprentice ſay, "I am going out for half an hour, to meet a friend, and take a ſocial glaſs of wine;" meeting the friend is very well, if it is after the hours appropriated to buſineſs; and taking a glaſs of wine is very well; but when does one glaſs ſuffice? is he not tempted by the favourable opportunity to take a ſecond? and do not entreaties prevail on him to continue, till at laſt, reaſon reſigns her power to the conquering force of inebriety?

TALKATIVE

TALKATIVENESS.

TO be fond of talking is not only unpolite, but may lead you into various dilemmas, from which you may not be able to extricate yourſelf. An apprentice, who too often loves to hear himſelf talk, will not always remember, the cuſtomers in the ſhop are not acquainted with his partiality, and may take offence at the little attention paid them. In company, it is the height of ill manners to engroſs the converſation to yourſelf, eſpecially if you are with your elders; you ſhould only put in a word or two now

and then, and not think yourſelf entitled to ſtart any frivolous ſubject, only becauſe your opinion had juſt been aſked. It ſeems a trivial foible, but it certainly tends very much to the good impreſſion of a perſon's character on the minds of their acquaintance, to be known as a diffident (though not reſerved) young man.

TAVERNS.

THOUGH you are forbidden by your indentures, to frequent taverns, there are many who will ſometimes make them places of rendezvous, or refreſhment, when in company. When

you are with your parents or guardians, or on a journey, taverns are uſeful, but to be publicly known at any particular one, muſt injure the character of an apprentice. Above all, let me beſeech you to avoid entering into any aſſociation or club, while you are an apprentice; you ſhould not even think of them; but indeed after that period, they are the worſt of connexions, without more care in ſelecting the members, than can with propriety be taken without affronting them. Every day ſhews the bad effects of ſuch ill-adviſed ſchemes; (for your friends would never give you ſuch advice.) We ought then to take example, and not add to the number of victims, who have fallen by theſe means into the hands of crafty and deſigning men, whoſe inſinuations have been too ſtrong for honeſty to combat.

TEMPERANCE.

THIS quality adds greatly to the character of a young man, eſpecially an apprentice. When you are invited to a party of your relations, and have obtained leave of your maſter to accept the invitation, reſolve before you go, to return at the hour you know is agreeable to him, and let not the moſt preſſing ſolicitation keep you half an hour later. The company will uſe their utmoſt endeavours to detain you, but when you are gone, the encomiums on your punctuality will be univerſal. To be the better

able to attend to the hour for your departure, exceed not two glaſſes, and let not the laughter of other young men, make you drink toaſt for toaſt, for depend upon it, your refuſal will in the end turn out more to your advantage, than if you had accepted the challenge.

When Godfrey Oakland had ſerved four years of his apprenticeſhip, his maſter, Mr. Gayley, would frequently introduce him into company, and wherever he went, he was univerſally admired for the ſteady regard he appeared to pay to temperance after dinner, or ſupper. He *never* exceeded three glaſſes of wine, at a ſetting, which made him conſtantly named as an example to the neighbouring youth, who however were not remarkably

fond of him, for two reaſons; he never would *keep it up* with them, and *they* were perpetually *bored* with his name, by their parents.

There were three young fellows, who were held in the higheſt eſteem, by their companions, as being moſt able to withſtand the power of wine; theſe three came to a determination to make Oakland drunk, as it would be the moſt *glorious* ſport they ever enjoyed. They were a long while buſy in planning the time and place, as it was no eaſy matter to draw him to a tavern, but a circumſtance happened ſoon after, which ſaved them any further trouble.

Mr. Gayley had gained one of the largeſt prizes in the lottery, and it happened

happened to be an agreement between him and nine others, who each bought a ticket, that if one of them was ſo fortunate as to obtain a prize above one thouſand pounds, he ſhould treat the reſt with a ſumptuous dinner, and plenty of wine.

It unfortunately fell out, that after the day was fixed, and every thing ſettled for the entertainment, Mr. Gayley was called into the country, on an affair of great importance; ſo juſt before he went, he called Oakland to him, and deſired he would officiate as chairman, in his ſtead. This however he begged to be excuſed, urging his inability to do juſtice to the bottle, and thereby the great chance there was of incurring the diſpleaſure of the company; his maſter

maſter replied, he loved him the better for his refuſal, but ſtill entreated him to accept it, as it was but for one day, and he would never trouble him in the ſame manner again, adding, had it not been for buſineſs of conſequence, he would not have been abſent.

Oakland reluctantly promiſed he would do his utmoſt, and his maſter departed well pleaſed with his proxy, whom he knew would find ſome means to avoid the fatal power of a couple of bottles of wine, which was the allowance agreed on.

Oakland now thought of nothing but how to appear upon an equality with his viſitors, without partaking of the ill effects of unlimited conviviality,

ality, for he did not wiſh to be called a *milk ſop*, and therefore hit upon an expedient, to anſwer all his ends, as will be ſeen hereafter.

The company were all aſſembled; they feaſted with the greateſt merriment, and amity, but when the cloth was removed, the nods, winks, and ſigns, would very much have offended any one but him, at whoſe expence they were given. He called for the wine, with the air of a preſident, (each having his bottle before him,) proceeded to give the toaſts, which were numerous, and in quick ſucceſſion. They had finiſhed the firſt bottle, and every one ſeemed aſtoniſhed at the ſober demeanor of their preſident, who to their utmoſt ſurpriſe, propoſed a ſong. This was univerſally

univerſally agreed to, and a ſong was given by each in turn.

They had now nearly finiſhed the ſecond bottle, when three of them gave *manifeſt*, and *manifold* ſigns of drunkenneſs; ſuch as trying to drink from the bottom of the glaſs, pouring the wine into the bottle ſtands, and uſing the doileys as pocket handkerchiefs; the reſt, as if with one accord, immediately taxed Oakland with hypocriſy, in publicly declaring he hated liquor, for they were well convinced he was extremely partial to it, and likewiſe much accuſtomed to drink, or he could not have borne ſo much as he had drank.

" Gentleman," replied he, " if any of you have ſufficient remains of reaſon

reaſon and judgment, to give your opinion of this liquor, taſte it, and you will not wonder at my ability to exceed you all."

He then poured out a glaſs, and declared he had drank nothing but wine and water extremely weak, the whole evening.

When Mr. Gayley heard the account of their entertainment, he put five guineas into Oakland's hand, ſaying, he could not praiſe him enough, but wiſhed every young man would (when in company,) have recourſe to his innocent deceit.

TIME.

TIME.

I Had nearly included this article in the preceding one, I mean here to adviſe you to pay the ſtricteſt attention to the hours preſcribed by your maſter, whether at riſing, meals, going out, or returning home, as nothing pleaſes more than punctuality in an apprentice. It may happen one night in the ſeaſon, you may be indulged with going to the theatre, then you muſt neceſſarily exceed ſober eleven; but as ſoon as the play is over, you ſhould, as expeditiouſly as poſſible, return, to endeavour to ſhorten the time

time your maſter has to wait for you; and here let me put in a word of caution; at that hour, let not any companion, on any pretence, draw you to a tavern: various are the allurements to young men at that time, but truſt me, thoſe who reſolve to withſtand them, will find it no hard matter ſo to do. The maſter's welfare ſhould be the firſt incitement to haſte, and that will be ſufficient to carry him ſafe home. With how much more joy does an apprentice advance, to thank a kind and indulgent maſter for his entertainment, than if he had broke through the rules of ſobriety and decorum, joined the diſſipated ſchemes of artful aſſociates, and thereby forfeited all claim to his maſter's forgiveneſs.

TROUBLE.

TROUBLE.

AN apprentice ſhould hardly know the meaning of this word, as it ſhould be impoſſible for a cuſtomer to be troubleſome, that is, they ſhould never appear ſo to an apprentice, whoſe only care is his maſter's intereſt. The lines I have choſen for my motto, ſtruck me ſo forcibly as I read them, that to them alone, I owe the deſire I conceived to form this work; they certainly are exceeding good ones, and the preceding tale in the work, whence they are taken, is moſt indiſputably worthy of a place here.

A dra-

A draper had acquired the name of the patient man, by a rule he had adopted of humouring his cuſtomers, and by the conſtant adherence to a reſolution he had made, which was, never to thwart them in any of their demands.

Three young men, who had heard it was impoſſible to put him out of temper, reſolved to try the experiment, and one day went to his ſhop, when they knew he was at dinner. They rummaged all his different cloths, without fixing on one, and at laſt deſired to have him called down. When he had ſhewed them every piece of cloth of the kind they aſked for, that he had in the ſhop, they fixed on one, and he aſking how much they would pleaſe to have, was anſwered, "a ſhilling's worth." He ſaw their drift at once, and determined to be

a match for them. He accepted the ſhilling, and placing it on the cloth, cut round it with his ſciſſars, and wrapped the piece up carefully in paper, put the ſhilling into his pocket, thanked them, and hoped for their future cuſtom. The young men, aſtoniſhed at his patience, begged his pardon, each of them ordered a ſuit of coaths.

TRUTH.

THIS virtue ſhould be your guide; follow truth in every department of life, it will be an unerring leader to fame and reſpectability. When a young man is known to deteſt falſehood, his word is believed, without that accompanyment of oaths and exclamations, which attend the converſation

verſation of thoſe who practiſe deceit; they find it hard to obtain belief for one word in ten they utter, and how ſhould it be otherwiſe? a perſon once guilty of a lie, who can believe? It is not an oath that enforces the argument in your favour. No, believe me, your *word* is of more conſequence than a dozen oaths; nay, frequent recourſe to oaths may lead the perſon you converſe with into diſbelief, while you in vain endeavour to gain credit by a repetition.

WHITE LIE.

THIS is a kind of lie, which is in general thought no harm, but let me tell you, if not reſtrained, it may in time

time amount to a licenſe for direct falſehood. It is frequently uſed by tradeſmen, and in ſome inſtances with propriety, but be aware how you indulge in frequent repetition. When a cuſtomer enters, he will often begin with, "Is ſuch an article good?" Now if you know it to be the reverſe, this is the anſwer I would adviſe you to make, "It is good, conſidering the price, but we have a ſuperior ſort, which is better, in proportion to the money," it leaves the choice ſtill to the cuſtomer, and takes no credit from your commodities. You may frequently have heard it remarked perhaps, a tradeſman cannot live without a frequent uſe of theſe ſort of equivocations or *lies*, (for they may come under the appellation) but I really think it poſſible for a ſhopkeeper to go through the whole of his

his trade, without being once forced to a white lie. I will mention a brief account of a ſhop-keeper, who retired with a good fortune, after having been in buſineſs not more than fourteen years.

Williamſon ſerved his time, and lived two years as ſhopman with Mr. Artley, a tradeſman in the city, who did not ſcruple thoſe little failings above-mentioned, ſo long as they ſerved to put off a bad article. The complaints he received were ſo various, and had ſuch an effect on Willimſon, that he made a reſolution to go through the whole of his buſineſs, without once claiming the aſſiſtance of an equivocation. To this end he left his maſter. His fame as a dealer in the beſt of articles, was ſoon ſo eſtabliſhed, that he found it neceſſary

to

to increaſe the number of his aſſiſtants; and it was not long before his late maſter's principal cuſtomers, had left him, to deal with this upright young man. Williamſon ſoon heard that Artley was in a very alarming way, his ſhop being almoſt deſerted; he therefore went to him one morning, merely out of compaſſion, and laid before him his plan of dealing, aſſuring him he had not been aſſiſted by an equivocation ſince he began buſineſs, and that he had made it a conſtant rule to ſell none but the very beſt of commodities, giving away to poor people every article the leaſt damaged. Artley did not reliſh this, he fooliſhly took it in a different ſenſe, from that in which it was meant, and very rudely commanded him to leave the houſe. The conſequence was, he very ſoon was obliged to ſhut up his

his ſhop, and Williamſon when he had been in buſineſs the aforementioned time, followed his example, but from a very different motive; one feeling the reward of unfair dealing, the other the reward of induſtry, and unſhaken truth.

WIT.

IT is not uncommon for young men to pride themſelves on a ready wit, which they make no ſcruple to diſplay whenever opportunity offers, without reſerve. There is nothing ſo likely to affront a cuſtomer, as punning or joking, ſetting aſide that reſpect which is due to their preſence.

If a young man in company once ſays what is called a good thing, he conſiders himſelf from that moment, free to exerciſe (what he terms) his wit, without reſtraint; but various are the dilemmas ſuch a young man falls into by ſuch impertinence, he is ſoon ſhunned by his connexions, as he prefers a jeſt, to his friend; he is conſtantly the butt for his companions' jokes, who value themſelves on being able to come out with a good thing, on one ſo famous for his wit, and he is often taxed with ſentences to the detriment of others, which he never uttered, but which his aſſociates have fathered on him, to ſcreen themſelves.

FINIS.